

ELECTIONS

KEY INFO & DATES

The Gateway is your main source for coverage of the 2015 U of A Students' Union elections.

FEB. 24
SUBSTAGE FORUM
12:00 P.M.

FEB. 25
LISTER FORUM
6:00 P.M.

FEB. 26
CSJ FORUM
12:00 P.M.

FEB. 29
MYER HOROWITZ FORUM
12:00 P.M.

MARCH 2 & 3
VOTING DAYS

ELECTION RESULTS

MARCH 3
DINWOODIE LOUNGE
7:00 P.M.

THEGATEWAYONLINE

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CANDIDATES Q&A



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Wednesday, February 24, 2016

Volume 106 Issue No. 25

Published since November 21, 1910

Circulation 5,000

ISSN 0845-356X

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The Gateway is published by the Gateway Student Journalism Society (GSJS), a student-run, autonomous, apolitical not-for-profit organization, operated in accordance with the Societies Act of Alberta.

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The Gateway periodically adjusts its circulation between 7,000 to 10,000 printed copies based on market fluctuations and other determining factors.

colophon

The Gateway is created using Macintosh computers and HP Scanjet flatbed scanners. Adobe InDesign is used for layout. Adobe Illustrator is used for vector images, while Adobe Photoshop is used for raster images. Adobe Acrobat is used to create PDF files which are burned directly to plates to be mounted on the printing press. Text is set in a variety of sizes, styles, and weights of Fairplex, Utopia, Proxima Nova Extra Condensed, and Tisa. The Manitoban is The Gateway's sister paper, and we love her dearly, though "not in that way." The Gateway's game of choice is racing to Home Depot to buy lightbulbs because they burn out during SU candidate interviews. Great.

contributors

Sahar Saadat, Cameron Wilson, Ashton Mucha, Pia Araneta, Sofia Osborne, Alex McPhee, Derek Schultz, Kate McInnes, Amelia Knecht, Riley Samson, Nathan Fung,



GTWY.CA

Tweets of the week

COMPILED BY: Richard Catangay-Liew & Jamie Sarkonak

As you may have heard, it's SU Election season!

Here's what Twitter had to say...

Justy Coasty @BBB0IBILINSKI

The #UASUvote always gets a lot of flack, but I for one am very excited to vote for the candidate that I find most physically attractive.

Ben Angus @BENANGUS

Tune in for live updates for the SUB forum! Races con-tested today: president, VP SL, and B.O.G. #uasuvote

Ben Angus @BENANGUS

Jk I got lazy, but everyone is doing great. #uasuvote

Joe Ylagerrr @JOER

I'm not even a #ualberta student anymore, but some of the posters for the SU elections are atrocious. #uasu

parker @WHOA_PARKER

so excited to kick back and watch #uasuvote unfold while NOT running a high-stakes referendum campaign at the same time!!

kate @KATEGBLACK

I literally live for the evil pettiness of #uasuvote. I LIVE. FOR. IT.

Ben Thronrdson @BENTHRONSDON

All these #uasuvote "teaser" photos about loving hard work >

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SECTION	MEETING TIMES	ROOM 3-04 SUB
NEWS	Mondays at 3 p.m.	
SPORTS	Wednesdays at 3 p.m.	
OPINION	Wednesdays at 2 p.m.	
ARTS & CULTURE	Wednesdays at 4 p.m.	
PHOTOGRAPHY	Mondays at 2 p.m.	
MULTIMEDIA	Mondays at 4 p.m.	
COMICS & ILLUSTRATIONS	Fridays at 2 p.m.	





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HOLY TRINITY This year's SU presidential race will feature the three current members of the executive committee.

COUMAR SALIFOU & CHRISTINA VARVIS

Three VPs duke it out in stacked presidential race

Jamie Sarkonak & Mitchell Sorensen

The President is the primary spokesperson for the Students' Union. They are responsible for maintaining an awareness of major issues affecting students and shall supervise the overall administration of the Students' Union and co-ordination of the Executive Committee.

This year features a highly competitive presidential race, where three current VPs are vying for leadership of the SU.

1 Why are you running for Students' Union President?

Cody Bondarchuk: I'm running because I'm not done, I think I've spent a lot of time on campus fighting for students and I want to continue the fight. The SU needs experienced leadership, someone who is able and knows the SU and what it's about. I think I can provide that.

Dylan Hanwell: I really care about the organization and the organization of the Students' Union, and the students that are a part of it. I think the Students' Union has given me the ability to grow as a leader, and student governance has really helped me grow as a leader and as a person. So I care about the organizational part of it and then on the other hand, this university means a lot to me. And the students that make it up mean a lot to me as well.

Fahim Rahman: I'm running because our Students' Union has the capacity to create a lot of meaningful change for undergraduates across all our campuses. And I really think that the Students' Union has to take

into account the perspectives of all undergraduates on campus.

2 Give us a brief overview of your platform.

Bondarchuk: I'm focusing on three main points, and they all have sub-promises. Generally, looking towards a tuition strategy where we can look at what is the cost of tuition and look at tuition as a resource instead of a commodity.

Second, campus equity, really continuing the work on gender advocacy and making sure we have representation of all demographics for students in leadership.

Third thing would be student voice, making sure students are able to make their own decisions in shaping their experiences, especially for residences and student groups.

Hanwell: So I've organized it around three themes. The first being the theme of keeping university affordable, by keeping the U-Pass in the upcoming negotiations this next year affordable (and) I think it's time to ask for tuition and advocate for a rollback in tuition to reduce tuition.

The second point is making sure that students build student community. So making sure that residence associations are given the ability to collect fees again, which they haven't been, as well as put student group discipline under the Students' Union instead of the Dean of Students' office.

And then the final point is building capacity of the Students' Union. So making sure we're improving some of the businesses that we have. Also engaging with alumni, I think we have the ability to engage with but not only Students' Union alumni, but also alumni at the U of A for support

or to help fill an endowment.

Rahman: There are four points in particular that I want to focus on. And it starts with mental health. Mental health has been a huge focus for the Students' Union and the university in the past few years. And rightly so. We need to ensure that we have consistent and stable funding from the provincial government to run the programs and services.

I want to lobby the provincial government for increased support for student financial aid so that affordability isn't a concern for anybody studying post-secondary, and so that more students can get involved with great experiences like getting involved with student groups and taking on volunteer roles as well as getting involved with experiential learning.

I'd really like to create a new office that connects undergraduate students with experiential learning opportunities outside their field of study because interdisciplinary learning will have a huge benefit to students after they graduate, in addition to getting work experience.

And lastly, A lot of our student representative associations and other student groups have had events outright suspended for a few years just because of the actions of a few individuals... So I really just want to take a look at how we administer discipline to student groups and have more of a focus on restorative justice as opposed to pure punitive measures.

3 What makes your VP experience the best for the job, and how does does that give you an advantage over your competitors?

Bondarchuk: I've had a chance

to work with the businesses, the services, and the staff here in the Students' Union as well as the university.

I know the SU and the University inside and out, I know all the players, I know who to talk to. I do think Ops Fi and my experiences before that put me in the best position because I have that well-rounded understanding.

Hanwell: Well the question we need to ask is, "What is the role of a president? Why do we elect a president, and what is it that we think they should do?" And my argument would be that the president is the face of an organization and ultimately it's the ambassador of an organization. I'd say in my role as VP (External), I had to do that consistently.

And I think that that's prepared me to be an ambassador both outside and now hopefully inside the university to both students and the administration. And I think it gives you perspective too, to realize what lies outside of the U of A and how that interacts with what happens here.

Rahman: I spent a lot of time advocating to the university for progress on issues that matter to students. I've successfully convinced General Faculties' Council to consider a teaching tenure stream as an additional labour component to the complement of staff that we have in our university.

And in addition to that, I've also taken a very consultative process throughout the entire year, and this year in particular, we had to create a submission to the university for President Turpin's new strategic plan, and in that, when I came up with the top ten or so priorities for

undergraduate students, I made sure that students from every single faculty were heard by actively soliciting feedback from Students' Council as well as the undergraduate faculty association presidents.

4 If you could be the president of any country, what would it be?

Bondarchuk: Oh my God, probably Iceland. Not a lot of people and those mini horses are adorable.

Hanwell: I'd say of Russia. I'd want to be — I wouldn't want to be Putin — but he has A) a ton of power as an individual and B) Russia is a pretty, well it's got some issues, but you're not starved for resources. You're not a banana republic in the third world or something like that. And it would be politically, my poli sci nerd coming out here, it would be so much more interesting than Canada, or Great Britain, or something like that. Just the way that politics would work in the country. And you'd be kind of the centre of that. And have to traverse that kind of field.

Rahman: If I could be president of any country, I'd pick my parent's home country, which is Bangladesh. It's got a lot of issues, and I'd take my experience that I've learned from student governance and working with people who may not have the clearest of intentions or the purest of intentions and try to really understand how deep corruption can root itself and ideally try to remove as much of that as possible and make it so that regardless of what religion you want to practice, you're free to do so in that country.

An extended version of this Q&A can be found at gtwy.ca

Ops Fi contenders ready to take on big budget issues

Raylene Lung, Kate McInnes & Mitchell Sorensen
NEWS STAFF

The Vice-President (Operations & Finance) is responsible for managing the SU's \$10 million budget. The VP (OpsFi) also oversees departmental operations, and works closely with the general manager and the President to manage the daily operations of the SU.
This year's Ops Fi race features a former SU councillor, a current SU councillor and a newcomer to the election process who has been following the SU since his first year.

1 What are your thoughts on communicating the SU budget?

Hasan Birer: Since I started at the university, I have always been looking at the Students' Union budget and what is happening and what the revenues are, what the profits are, what the expenses are. And I'll be looking at them and I was always trying to come up with an idea, a better idea so that we can increase revenues and profits in the Students' Union by reducing costs and increasing revenues.

Whatever we spend, we have to make sure it's worth it for students. We are trying to get the most from one dollar that we spend in Student Union and it should worth it.

Taimur Malik: A lot of students don't know exactly where their fees are going. A lot of people don't know about the Dedicated Fee Units and exactly how much they pay towards those DFUs, and that's something we should definitely make clear to students. Now that we're increasing these fees, students will probably expect more from us as well, so we need to make it clear that we also give back more.

Robyn Paches: I believe that students' money should be as transparent as possible. As the budget's already posted online, I believe that's excellent and I think communication should be optimized.

2 What are your thoughts on the recent SU membership fee increase?

Birer: It's hard to explain it in English. I feel like when you look at the budget of Students' Union and when you look at a more detailed version, when there is a (membership fee) increase, because Students' Union is for students, they are not here for profit. The Students' Union is here for students. So if there's a (membership fee) increase, that means that again, it's not to hurt the students but it's for students right.

Malik: Students should have been consulted. The average student didn't know that their fees were going to be increased, that decision was made in council. A lot of students didn't know about that, and definitely student input should have been taken into account. That's what my campaign's about — a lot of the time we don't ask students what they want and you don't take that into account.

Paches: I feel like given the current climate, as in the possibility of a raise in minimum wage, I feel that it was justified. It's a minimal increase and the benefits that it sees in the

services it provides students as well as maintaining jobs for students is very valuable. Because if this wouldn't have gone through, then students could have lost jobs and services that are very valuable to students could have been cut, which is more negative in my opinion.

3 Why are you running for Vice-President (Operations and Finance)?

Birer: I'm running because again, I served in different councils and groups in the university and services in the university. And all of the things that I did, on campus and off campus, all the other organizations out of university, they taught me a lot of things. So I think, I feel like I have seen, because of my cultural background, because of my international background, and because of the university background, I have a lot of ideas about the university that I think can be improved. I feel that I can work on it, again as I said. If start something, I try my best, like always. It is, again not about myself, but about us, the university.

Malik: Over those four years, this campus has given me home and my friends and the peers around me that I call family. It's given me tremendous experience — I've gone through a lot, I've learned a lot. I firmly believe I can give back. And not just give back together, if we believe in this whole thing together, we can give back. Honestly, why I'm running is that I want to give back.

Paches: Big reason I'm running is number one, I feel this is the place where I can present the most value, where my skill sets are the most valuable to people. So this last year I've learned a lot on council, as I've learned a lot about the SU's finances so I feel extremely qualified to go into this position. But then number one reason above that is I have a lot of great ideas going into this, a lot of implementable ideas.

4 Is there anything beyond the typical VP (Ops Fi) portfolio that you would want to pursue if elected?

Birer: All of my platform points, they are related to Students' Union, they are all about the Students' Union portfolio at the same time.

We have huge multicultural diversity in our university and we have a lot of people from different backgrounds and cultures. I think by having events, by taking advantage of multiculturalism, we can build a community for students and we can do a lot services and represent us. For instance, by bringing Heritage Festival and by having weekly cultural days, we can integrate all those for our university.

Malik: I'm very interested in a lot of the SU programming. The financial aspect does come under the VP (Ops Fi), but a lot of it is also under other VPs, which help in organizing those events, like Week of Welcome and AntiFreeze, so I would really like to help my co-execs out with those as well.

Paches: Absolutely. That's my third point on student safety. So as we've seen this year, it's possible in the Ops Fi portfolio to expand further. VP Bondarchuk has done some excellent work on gender. I want to take the reins on student safety. I

feel this conversation isn't being had, but it should be. On the triangle of needs, at the bottom, is literally student safety. However, it's not being talked about enough when there are students that don't feel safe 100 per cent of the time.

5 Is there anything you would have done differently from this year's VP (Ops Fi)?

Birer: Of my platform ideas, one of them is scrutinize the SU business portfolio. I want to work close with that, I want to focus on that. If there is anything that we are missing, I want to make sure we are on the right path and as I said, I can work on it and make it better.

Malik: Cody's done a really good job, but I would have gotten more student consultation regarding the fee increase.

Paches: Nothing jumps to mind currently. I do think implementation of groceries at SUBmart, it's a great idea, but I think that it could have been implemented in a way to maybe work on the core issues of SUBmart first before implementing groceries.

It's tough to tell if it'll be successful because of course it needs another year going forward to see if that is actually successful in the long run. But I do think that there are more issues to solve with SUBmart than just that.

6 What experience and skills give you an advantage over your fellow candidates?

Birer: I'd say diversity. It's because besides my major and my work experience in finance and operating businesses. So with the background that I have, with all of them ... I can organize a lot of events and with those experiences, I think it is not going to be tough for me, but I think at the same time, I'll put more effort and put some unique events and services to the U of A.

Malik: Dedication. Over the past four years, I've dedicated myself to my work, student groups, to a bigger idea. I want to put the same effort and same energy into this work as well. I've been involved in several student groups as a volunteer and as an exec. I started at the bottom and I've grown to the top.

Paches: So the main experience that gives me an advantage over others in the Ops Fi race specifically is my experience on Students' Council. This year I chaired Audit Committee, and for those that don't know, Audit Committee skins though the SU's finances to ensure that every dollar is spent in not only an ethical way but a way that is in the best interest of students.

Second I stand on Finance Committee, which creates the budget, approves DROs — Dedicated Fee Unit disbursement. So it essentially creates the framework. So not only do I know the framework of how the money should be spent next year if I'm elected, but I also know the ethical, proper way in which money can be spent.

An extended version of this Q&A can be found at gtwy.ca.



BUDGET BREAKDOWN Three hopefuls will be campaigning for a shot at managing the SU's \$10 million budget

OUMAR SALIFOU & CHRISTINA VARVIS



X-FACTOR Winner of the VP (External) race will be in charge of tackling post-secondary issues and negotiating with the government



OUMAR SALIFOU & CHRISTINA VARVIS

Post-secondary advocates highlight VPX tripleheader

Mitchell Sorensen, Richard Catangay-Liew & Riley Samson

The Vice-President (External) is responsible for Students' Union relations with the government and the larger community, and develops policy on issues such as post-secondary funding, co-ordinating provincial and national lobbying efforts, and improving the public profile of students and their concerns.

1 Students might not think that their voice matters in provincial and federal politics. What is your response to that, and how would you improve it?

Patrick Cajina: I think it absolutely matters, I think it's fairly evident given that we have our provincial and national lobby organizations constantly advocating on behalf of students and the way we kind of measure that success is how governments respond to that in their budgets and platforms. We've seen the NDP be very responsive to a tuition freeze that is taking place over these next two years. We've seen the federal government pay more attention to students, especially with Justin Trudeau being a young prime minister, he has said on multiple occasions of how important it is for students to involve themselves in the political process aside from voting that only happens every four years.

Reed Larsen: The way I look at it, and I think it has a lot to do with how you approach the issue, the way I've tried to develop my speech, and the way I'm approaching this problem is that it's not an "I" problem. It shouldn't be "You should vote to pledge because it will be better for you." That's not how it works. if we all do it together, like we, we, we, we, we, right? If we are all part of it, to all vote, if we were to achieve 100 per cent voter turnout, that would be 30,000 students who would all be better off for it. It's those small pressures of an entire community that really start to get things moving.

Mike Sandare: I think students' voices completely matter when it comes down to things like provincial and federal politics. When we all come together, we can make a change. I completely believe that we're here in university because we've been given a shot at something greater, because we know how we want to contribute, because we know how we want to help. And by banding together we are able to give ourselves a larger voice, we are able to push through exactly what we want to see in the future, because the future is ours.

2 What are your thoughts on the Alberta NDP government led by Rachel Notley and what they've done in their for the post-secondary sector?

Cajina: I think it is very promising, I think it shows a renewed investment and dedication to post-secondary in Alberta. The only thing that I think the next VP (External) should be cautious about is playing too friendly with the government because that's when we lose our ability to go against them. Traditionally, the NDP has been very student friendly, and hopefully that trend will continue, but it's important for the SU to remain impartial and non-partisan.

Larsen: Well for students, they came in and they did what I would call political moves. So they came in and they froze tuitions, they froze these ideas of non-mandatory instructional fees but they were just freezes. There was no legislation involved in a lot of it. A lot of it was just coming in and saying, "You know, you can't do that as a university." So if we're constantly pushing an NDP government to lower tuitions, or fund programs, or create jobs just for students, or all these things, it's not the government who's going to come back with these things.

So these tuition freezes, these promises of building new buildings on campus, like Alberta campus, things like mental health funding that's coming up right away, all of these things they could turn into just political favours instead of just long-term sustainable development. Right now, it's been more of political one-offs.

Sandare: They're not bad. When it comes down to it, I like that she was able to implement the tuition freeze right away. That's by far my favourite. Of course, it's unfortunate that the tuition freeze doesn't extend to international students as well. It's unfortunate there is that little bit of a loophole there, however that's something that I'd like to fix.

3 So you're at a table with Premier Rachel Notley. If you were to bring up your single biggest concern with Alberta post-secondary, what would it be?

Cajina: I would say affordability would be the biggest one for me. I don't think post-secondary education should be a debt sentence, and traditionally it has been viewed as an opportunity for more social mobility, to improve your life and enrich the lives of others, and it's a way to move out of poverty. The first thing for me is affordability because what good is a degree if you're \$50,000 in debt at the end of it?

Larsen: Right now, and the reason why I'd choose this is slightly more personal, would be long-term mental health funding. And the structure of how we go about doing that. It's kind of one of those funny things where it's going to happen, we kind of know that there's going to be funding for mental health services on campuses, but I really believe there's a certain way to do it that is quite a bit better, and I believe that way to be pursuit of funding.

Sandare: My single biggest concern with Alberta post-secondary right now is that it's become really hard for students to get employment. Even if you look into engineering – with electrical engineering this year, there were only three students who were able to get co-op. I think that's a very, very big issue. Yes, universities should be about academics, yes it should be about bettering yourself and becoming something more. But I think that also ties into students wanting to be in the career field of their choice. And going through academia, I personally believe that students should be able to have that say. They should be able to determine their own future, be it research, be it career-based, be it whatever it is.

4 We have a new Minister of Advanced Education who was just sworn in earlier this year. If elected, what would you do to build a relationship with him?

Cajina: I have had a couple of encounters with Marlin Schmidt as he's the MLA of my riding. Before he became the Minister of Advanced Education, I had met with him regarding issues related to CSJ related to putting in French services and helping Francophone immigrants integrate into the Bonnie Doon community, also known as the French Quarter. I think from that standpoint, he may not remember me but we had a good working relationship and I'd continue to build on that.

Larsen: Obviously to build a new relationship with somebody every single time you go in to do a lobby meeting is really rough, it's hard. How would I deal with that sort of thing, and how I would continue to approach those things, I think it's an active approach, it's trying to not force your name into somebody's agenda, but to say, to drop a line and say "Hi, I'm here and this is what I do. I'm VP (External) and I really would like to talk to you about these things. Or the Council of Alberta University Students would really like to talk to you.

Sandare: To be honest, I really believe in a personal touch. I would sit down with Marlin Schmidt, I'd see if we'd be able to set up a meeting that wasn't just in an office where we could talk about things, but where I could learn, first off, why he chose to become Minister, why he joined the NDP, why he came into power there. He became the Minister of Advanced Education because he really wanted to make a change in that sector, and by doing, that I believe that there must be reasons why he's there and how he wants to be able to help students.

5 Are you concerned with the high turnover rate in Advanced Education Ministers?

Cajina: Yeah, I think that's something that it's tough to answer because with that turnover it does provide an opportunity for someone new to look at the situation with fresh eyes, at the same time, it shows that there is a lack of continuity within the government and perhaps with the policies they look to implement. Ideally, I'd like to see more stability on that front, but that's something we can't control, and have to roll with the punches.

Larsen: Turnover is an unfortunate thing in general. It's something that's really hard to avoid especially with governments. I know for myself personally, I would have very little problems working professionally with turnover. Mostly because, even in the professional world, you'll be working with somebody new every other time that you have a business opportunity. You'll end up trying to have a sales pitch every time you go into a meeting. And that's how most of my small business stuff works.

Sandare: I think everyone is. It's tough to build a long-lasting relationship when there is that high turnover rate, however that always means that there are new ideas being brought in. To be honest, I'm not too worried about it, just because being the VP (External), being that voice that advocates for the students, who is out there to represent their needs, you need to be able to adapt.

An extended version of this Q&A can be found at gtwy.ca.



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ACADEMIC ADVOCATES The VP (Academic) will be responsible for academic issues and faculty associations. OUMAR SALIFOU

Pair vying for VP (Academic)

Jamie Sarkonak & Raylene Lung
NEWS STAFF

The Vice-President (Academic) represents and advocates for student academic matters within the university community and beyond. The VP (Academic) is also responsible for encouraging and facilitating involvement in student government via faculty associations, General Faculties Council and other university communities.

1 Why are you running for the position of VP (Academic)?

Marina Banister: I really believe that students should have a strong voice in their education. And ideas I hope to implement in my platform I think will do a good job to improve the university experience for students from a variety of different faculties.

I feel as though I could jump right in and start immediately to lobby the university administration on issues that matter to students.

Thomas Patrick: I'm running for VP (Academic) because I've been an undergraduate student for five years and a lot of things have happened that, when I was a student, I just kind of accepted it, but in hindsight, not that I'm at the end of my degree and now that I've been involved in Students' Council for a year, you start to see that there are actually solutions to some of these issues.

2 What skills or experiences make you the best candidate for VPA?

Banister: I sat on every level of student governance at the U of A in my four years. And I'm a big believer that politicians should be politicians and not experts. So if I were to be elected, although I do have a plethora of experience I would constantly going back to different faculty associations and department associations to letting them inform the different decisions I should make on their behalf.

Patrick: I have been involved in student services for a while. I volunteered for three years for orientation, two of those years in leadership position. I've been involved in student governance for over a year in General Faculties Council and just under a year for Students' Council. I think I have been a very

effective councillor there. I think I have provided a good voice for students, I have made some positive changes for (The Faculty of Engineering), and I think I would be able to do the same for the student body at large.

3 High textbook costs have been a consistent problem, do you have any plans on dealing with them?

Banister: So this is not a new issue by any means. What I want to do is focus on textbook costs, but also the larger academic affordability in general. So I want to encourage professors to use course packs instead of textbooks. I also want to make sure there are necessary scholarships and bursaries for people who have higher needs, and I also want to challenge any sort of incentives that professors sometimes get for selecting certain texts or materials for their courses.

Patrick: Well, not specifically the cost of textbooks. I'm hoping that we can, as an institution, start eliminating textbooks from a lot of intro-level classes. See, textbooks would be a crazy hard thing to get into how they price up textbooks. And for a lot of intro-level classes, textbooks are not actually necessary. So you're taking an introductory statistics course, all of that stuff would already be available online in an educational format.

4 Looking back on this year, is there anything you would have done differently from the current VP (Academic)?

Banister: I think that VP Rahman did a very good job this year, and there are a few things I would have done differently. But more so that I would have focused my energy in different places. So if I were to be elected VP (Academic), I want to invest equally in both advocating to the university administration as well as providing support to all the levels of governance that really make a big impact to faculty associations and department associations.

Patrick: You know, I hadn't thought about that before. I'm not sure. I think I do generally agree with what his direction was with what he was trying to do. A lot of my points are an extension of that. So no, I don't think so; I think he did a generally good job.

5 There's been a lot of talk about the possibility of a teaching tenure stream. If elected, do you have any plans for that?

Banister: I do believe that the teaching tenure stream has a good impact on the quality of education at the university. But I think that there's more things that we can be doing besides that to ensure that people have a good quality of education. So one of those is replacing emphasis on the faculty evaluation committee. In the past, those results have been used to determine the raises and promotions that professors get.

So I think investing in a teaching tenure stream is great, but we should also be placing more emphasis on the student evaluations of professors' quality of teaching.

Patrick: I think it isn't an absolutely wonderful idea. Obviously, it wouldn't go for all classes. Sometimes it's really important to have an instructor who also does research. I'm in a class right now with myself, one other student and a professor. We get to work directly in their lab, we get direct exposure to what they work on and it's awesome.

In ENG 130, you are not assisted at all by the instructor being a world-class researcher. And a world-class researcher probably has no interest in instructing his intro-level course that students do not get to see anything interesting in. So yeah, I'm big into it.

6 What was your Purity Test score? What would you have done to "improve" it? What's one question you would have added?

Banister: My Purity Test score was the Padawan, which I think is the lowest score of the positive numbers. So I'm pretty satisfied with my score. I checked off all the boxes that I've done in my life and there weren't a lot that I think I should have checked off that I wanted to so I'm pretty satisfied with my score. I think I've had a very similar score for my whole university, interesting enough.

Patrick: Oh boy, that's a loaded question. I think I was Smuggler. Like improve it up or improve it down? I mean, I like to think that my life decisions aren't made for the Purity Test.

An extended version of this Q&A can be found at gtwy.ca.

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Hotly contested Student Life race sees four competitors

Kate McInnes & Mitch Sorensen
NEWS STAFF

The Vice-President (Student Life) is responsible for university-related, non-academic issues including campus programming, university non-academic advocacy, the U-Pass, the Health & Dental Plan and SU Student Services.
This year's Student Life contest-houses the most candidates of any race.

1 Why are you running for this position?

Francesca El Ghossein: I'm a very policy-oriented person and advocacy-oriented person because I'm passionate about justice, I am passionate about making sure student voices are heard and amplified, but I also enjoy organizing events and assisting student groups and just rendering services more effective and more efficient

Levi Flaman: A few reasons, the first being the U-Pass, that's coming up for renewal this year, and I feel as though we need someone who is willing to put in the time and effort in to get the best deal for students. As someone who comes from a lower middle class background who relies more on mass transit than others, I understand the importance that we shouldn't just take what ETS gives us, we should have a voice in getting the services that we need.

Jordan Simao: I decided to run for VP (SL) because every year around election time, I see students come out, and there's always a lot of excitement and passion amongst candidates, but once elections are over I don't really see the fruits of the promises during election season. I have a lot of really simple, concrete ideas that I think I can get done while in office, and I want to see if I can do this, basically. I'm pretty confident I have the ideas and the skills and knowledge to make things better at the U of A, even if it's just a little bit.

Kevin Wang: I want to make change. I know that sounds silly and everyone wants to make changes, that's why you're running. But I am extremely passionate about some of the things I want to do. Especially in the realms of inclusivity and mental health. Those are things that have affected me deeply and if I did not use my passion and direct it towards something that I can benefit students in that aspect, I would have just wasted all this time.

2 Could you briefly explain your platform?

El Ghossein: The first point of my platform is making sure students have more agency over their student life. That will be done through advocating for consistent student representation at all levels of government.

Second point in that category is giving students more autonomy when it comes to student group discipline, so switching the events management portfolio from under the dean of students to under the umbrella of the SU would be another one of my priorities to ensure students have more agency in what happens to them in the

non-academic sense.

The third point into the mental health category would be to reach out to the communities that don't typically ask for help or use these services and figure out a way to come up with a more customized or personalized outreach system

Flaman: Mobility in the U-Pass, both for the fees, I've heard from a few people that they don't think that it should be mandatory, or that there should be more opt out opportunities. Also smart fare technology, the city has recently been exploring that, and if we were able to integrate that into the U-Pass instead of the sticker, it would save students a lot of time. Security, because it hasn't been the best on main campus and CSJ in recent years.

Community, because we have a very diverse pool of students on campus both domestic and international, and I want to get everyone together as one, so that everyone feels accepted here while they are going to the U of A.

Simao: The first main point is to advocate and build a relationship with resident services, right the wrongs that have happened there.

You won't see anything in my platform about specifically increasing mental health funding. I think at this level of leadership — if I'm running for this position — it should be implicit that I support an increase in mental health funding, because that's absolutely something that needs to happen.

Of course I want to increase mental health funding; it's obvious mental health funding needs to be increased. But I think there are ways we can make the resources we have right now go a little bit further.

Wang: My platform is multifold, but some of the biggest points I want to highlight is one, I want to prepare new students, so I want to change how orientation is done by changing the group structure. Secondly, I want to bring back the mental health funding. Currently, it's ending in April, and once that funding is removed, you are going to see a lot of staff go and an entire community of social workers gone. I want it to be permanent, long term, and not subject to whatever the government thinks.

3 There's been a lot of concerns surrounding residence that came up this year. How do you plan on addressing the concerns of students in residence?

El Ghossein: I think there is an ideal scenario in my opinion, that would be residence associations would have the same status as faculty associations in the fact that they would only be held accountable to their constituents and the audit committee of the Students' Union, and not to residence services.

Flaman: First, I need to meet up with all the constituents involved. I've never lived in residence, so I can't speak firsthand as to the problems. I'd like to see the LHSA back in a formal form, as opposed to the advocacy group that we've taken on in the interim. The first this for me would be to find what

the issues are, if you don't know what the problem is, you can't fix them.

Simao: I'm very fortunate — I have a great working relationship with senior leadership with resident services, and having served as the president of a residence association. I have my own ideas of what residents want, but it's going to be a lot of listening to residents and hearing to what they have to say. Regardless of what they have to say, I think we're all in agreement that residence fees can't stop.

Wang: These problems cannot be fixed overnight, these are long term things that can't be fixed overnight, these are long-term things that we need to negotiate with the university. What I plan to do with regards to that is to push for student representation in Lister and fee collection, if residence services won't do it, we'll ask the Office of the Registrar to do it, because the registrar collects fees for us already.

4 You have unlimited funding for one event or project for the student body. What is it, and what does it look like?

El Ghossein: I think I would organize the largest ever flash mob. I love dancing, I love music, I think dancing brings people together, and the image I get is a big, colourful flash mob, and that's the first thing that came through my mind.

Flaman: I'd like to have something similar to Heritage Days on campus. We do have it earlier in the summer, but it's not in the academic year, so people miss out on it. By having it during Week of Welcome or International Week, and having it set up in quad or Butterdome or anywhere that is really feasible.

Simao: I think something that I really appreciate is when an entire university population can get behind something. We will break two world records — not one, but two world records. We'll start off the day by having the world's largest dodgeball game — once again, we'll bring that record back to the U of A, where it belongs — and afterwards, one idea I toyed around with in my platform before I did my research was hosting the world's biggest lip-dub. We'll bring in Taylor, we'll bring in Kanye, they can settle their beef. We can bring in Meek Mill and we can bring in Drake, because they got to make amends there.

Wang: You caught me by surprise. I would like to see all the services to expand their services for all students' needs. A lot of services are overloaded right now. Clinical Counselling, for example, they're fully booked. Community social workers are fully booked. Even the university clinic could fund more individuals to lower their wait times. I would give as much funding as possible to the student clubs, because they cater best to student to the diversity of the student body.

An extended version of this Q&A can be found at gtwy.ca.



OUMAR SALIFOU & CHRISTINA VARVIS

The Gateway asking students if they'll still support DFU fee

Richard Catangay-Liew
NEWS EDITOR • @RICHARDCLIEW

The Gateway's Dedicated Fee Unit (DFU) is up for its mandatory renewal, which occurs every five years. Full-time students in Fall and Winter semester pay \$3.39 to The Gateway to cover its publishing and organizational costs.

Students will be asked whether they would support The Gateway's DFU in a non-legally binding plebiscite question. The plebiscite's results will be reviewed by Students' Council, who will approve or deny The Gateway DFU.

The "Yes" campaign is run by The Gateway's Executive Director Beth Mansell.

1What are you trying to accomplish with the plebiscite question?

Beth Mansell: The great thing about these mandatory plebiscite questions every five years for DFUs is that it gives us a great opportunity to get out there and tell students about what The Gateway does and why we're important and vital to a healthy campus community. We want more students to know about us and care about what we do. We also want each and every student to feel that they're welcome to volunteer with us in whatever capacity they wish.

2What do you plan do with the DFU money should students vote "yes"?

Mansell: The fee will be remaining exactly the same amount as it currently is. Currently the money goes towards paying our student journalists to ensure that campus and other news relevant to students is covered adequately.

Secondly it goes towards our printing costs and general upkeep. With our shift to a new operational model next year the money will continue being put towards print costs for the magazine and paying student staff, as well as website upgrades and maintenance.

3How are you planning on making the funding more sustainable?

Mansell: A big reason why we decided to shift our organizational model was because we believed we weren't being responsible with student money by printing a weekly newspaper. Instead, we want to put ourselves in a position to be an adaptable campus media source, where the money can be invested in new projects and new media ideas as they transpire so that the gateway continues to remain relevant on campus five, 10, 20 years into the future.

4Why should the average student care about The Gateway?

Mansell: The average student should care about The Gateway because we do so much more than just put out the purity test every year. By employing student journalists we're able to effectively cover and comment on all levels of U of A governance and the decisions and actions they make that affect every student. This adds an increased level of accountability and transparency. We're the only group on campus has that the resources to do this. We're also able to share student experiences - if any student has a worthy story we're able to publicize it so that it can garner the necessary attention. These are things that contribute to a healthy campus community.



NEWSPAPER NO MORE The Gateway is will be going digital in 2016-17, should students vote "yes." OUMAR SALIFOU

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Sole candidate gunning for BoG seat

Nathan Fung
NEWS STAFF • @FUNGNATHAN_K

The Board of Governors Representative sits on both Students' Council and the Board of Governors, the university's highest governing body. The board contains a mix of staff, alumni, students and public members, and is responsible for tuition levels, managing campus finances and approving new buildings.

1How would you describe the relationship between the SU and the BoG? What can you do to improve it?

Colin Champagne: I'm running because I believe there are improvements to be made to the Board of Governor's Representative position. Such as educating students first of all what the position is. Letting them know how important the board itself is. What does the board do? A lot of them don't know what it does so mainly to get the information out there in an active way.

2What is the biggest problem in the BoG? How will you address it?

Champagne: And I think that by defining the role of the BoG rep we can better create firm bridges between the execs and the actual BoG rep. that way we can have some predetermined dossiers or things we can work on together. That way it just moves on efficiency and increases transitions when new candidates come in.

3A lot of students might not know what the BoG rep does. How will you communicate the responsibility of your position, and consult students on BoG issues?

Champagne: On my campaign website right now there's an easy google form where students can submit questions, comments, ideas or concerns on the u of a as a whole or specific issues. I want to have a similar way of communicating with students if I am elected so as to make it easy and accessible for students to communicate.

Right now, there's no real way other than going through your student's union rep or actually knowing who your BoG rep is.

I want to create a website that is unique for the BoG rep so that he can easily give out information and is easily accessible, especially for satellite campus students who don't easily get the chance to meet him in person or be on campus to meet him one on one, that would be a good way to interact with the BoG rep.



BONJOUR TO THE BOARD The BoG Rep candidate race alone this year. OUMAR SALIFOU

4Everyone knows that board meetings can be kind of boring. What would you do to spice them up?

Champagne: I think I have a way of talking that is, especially in meetings, a little bit more plainly fun. I get to the point but I don't drown it in bureaucratic or theocratic language. I hope to also speak often and with that comes learning a lot about the issues as they arise and just being able to interact often and dynamically.

Other than that, I know there's lots of important people on the board and serious business people and we can't throw a fiesta, but I think we can still find a way to make the meetings pleasant and go about the business in an orderly way.

An extended version of this Q&A can be found at gtwy.ca.



GOOBYE TO THE BOG Umer Farooq leaves BoG race on first day of elections. OUMAR SALIFOU

Farooq drops BoG campaign

GPA, fatigue cited as reasons for leaving SU Elections

Richard Catangay-Liew
NEWS EDITOR • @RICHARDCLEW

Just hours after the Students' Union Election began, Undergraduate Board of Governors Representative hopeful Umer Farooq has suspended campaign activity and withdrawn his candidacy.

After "careful thought," Farooq cited GPA and his mental and physical health as his reasons for dropping out.

"This choice has been weighing on me for a long time, and it has made me consider why I decided to run and what it meant to those around me, and to myself," Farooq said in a public statement.

Farooq went on to say that students deserve a BoG Rep who could devote 100 per cent of their time into their campaign and representing students, which he would not be able to provide should he remain in the near two-week long race. Campaigning for the SU Executive Committee and Un-

dergraduate BoG Rep officially commenced at 9 a.m. on Monday, Feb. 22, and will run through Thursday, March 3 when polls close and results are announced.

The third-year science student and current president of the Interdepartmental Science Students' Society, the faculty association for science students, is no stranger to the SU Election process. Farooq contested for BoG Rep in 2014, eventually losing handily to the more experienced Sangram Hansra in a 50 per cent to 25 per cent vote.

Farooq closed his statement by wishing Colin Champagne, now the sole candidate for BoG Rep, best of luck.

"I would like to wish Colin Champagne, who is running for BoG Rep currently, the best of luck in his campaign," Farooq said. "He is a worthy candidate and opponent."

A full version of this story can be found at gtwy.ca

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It’s time for the annual panel where a team of bitter journalists critique the people putting themselves out there to be your next Students’ Union executives. We don’t care about their platforms. Only their posters.


THE PANEL	
KEVIN SCHENK	<i>Real Talk</i>
OUMAR SALIFOU	<i>Confused Teen</i>
JON ZILINSKI	<i>Hot Long Jon</i>
ADAIRE BEATTY	<i>Design Witch</i>
ZACH BORUTSKI	<i>Nice Guy</i>
JOSH GRESCHNER	<i>Ice Breaker</i>



A campaign poster for Fahim Rahman. It features a portrait of Fahim wearing a white shirt, a green bow tie, and glasses. To his right is a large, stylized green letter 'R'. Below the portrait, the text reads: 'votefahim.com | facebook.com/votefahim | @fahimrahman', 'FAHIM RAHMAN FOR PRESIDENT', 'VOTE MARCH 2 & 3 #BELIEVEINFAHIM'. At the bottom, four green boxes list goals: 'EXPAND MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAMMING', 'INCREASE STUDENT FINANCIAL AID', 'CREATE EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES', and 'ENSURE STUDENT GROUP AUTONOMY'.

FAHIM RAHMAN PRESIDENT

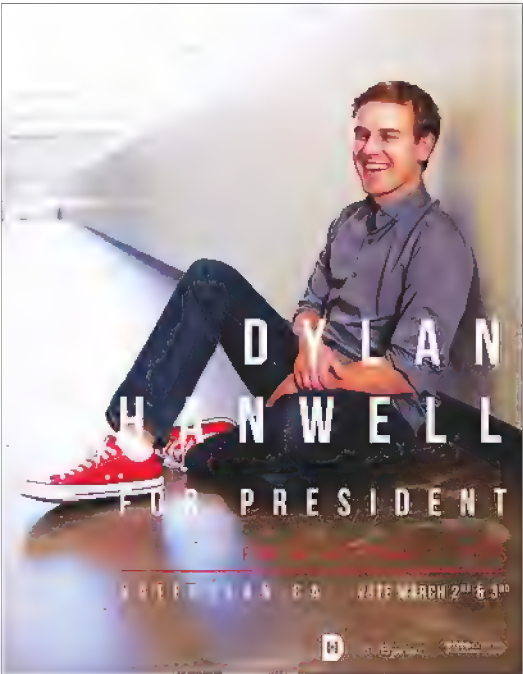
ALL EXCEPT OUMAR: Fahman.
OUMAR: Fahman? What the fuck is his name!?
KEVIN: He's looking away.
OUMAR: We have to find a word for that. Is it a grin? Is it a grimace?
ADAIRE: It's a half smile. It looks like someone died in his family and he has to be doing this.
OUMAR: He looks like he just entered the group chat and he's getting roasted.
KEVIN: He said 'Hi' and no one said hi back.
JON: He looks like he just stole my bowl of Lucky Charms.
OUMAR: Experiential learning opportunities? Like field trips?
JOSH: His hair blends in with the F, and when you look at it...
ADAIRE: It looks like a penis. I see a penis.
KEVIN: I like how his bowtie matches the font.
ADAIRE: It's cute.
ADAIRE: I wouldn't have broken up the R like that. It looks like Adidas.
KEVIN: It looks like a screw.
ZACH: It looks like a logo for a cellphone company.



A campaign poster for Tom Patrick. It features a portrait of Tom with a beard and glasses. To his left is a purple background with white text: 'VOTE TOM PATRICK', 'tp4vp.com', 'VP ACADEMIC', 'MARCH 2 & 3'. There are also some small icons (dollar sign, megaphone, etc.) and a small 'T' in a yellow circle on the right.

TOM PATRICK VP ACADEMIC

ALL: Toilet paper.
KEVIN: Obviously the worst one.
ADAIRE: Is he an athlete? It looks like an athlete photo.
JON: Money yelling at apples.
ZACH: It looks like he bought this template online.
ADAIRE: Why the purple Tom?
JOSH: It's the Minnesota Vikings colours.
JON: It's the Teen Titans logo.
ZACH: This is the kind of poster that would be really good in 2003.
ADAIRE: It looks like all Tom did was show up for a portrait and gave everything else to a designer and it was put together chop chop. Here's the information. Here I am. I'm not creative. My name's Tom. He's a meat and potatoes kind of man.
OUMAR: On the ballots it should just have candidates' logos. T. DH. X.
ADAIRE: They really should team up with the design program and every year, a class should design the posters. They wouldn't necessarily improve them, but you know.



A campaign poster for Dylan Hanwell. It features a portrait of Dylan sitting on a ledge, wearing a blue shirt and red sneakers. The text reads: 'DYLAN HANWELL FOR PRESIDENT', 'VOTE MARCH 2 & 3'.

DYLAN HANWELL PRESIDENT

ADAIRE: Aww.
OUMAR: It's a boyband poster.
ADAIRE: Justin Bieber's running for our president.
ZACH: These photos are uncomfortably candid.
OUMAR: It's like he's adjusting his dick right there.
ADAIRE: It's like when they're going to announce a pregnancy.
JON: And he's so happy he's the father.
OUMAR: He's waiting for his dad to pick him up.
JON: I can't believe that his only point on the poster is to get a cheap UPass.
KEVIN: We already have a cheap UPass.
JON: We're gonna get a cheaper UPass.
ADAIRE: Why do they all have to have their initials as personal logos?
ZACH: If he was wearing a leather jacket he would be a background character in Grease.



A campaign poster for Marina Banister. It features a portrait of Marina holding a blue folder. The text reads: 'VOTE MARINA BANISTER VP ACADEMIC', 'MARCH 2 / 3', '#votemarina', 'www.votemarina.ca'.

MARINA BANISTER VP ACADEMIC

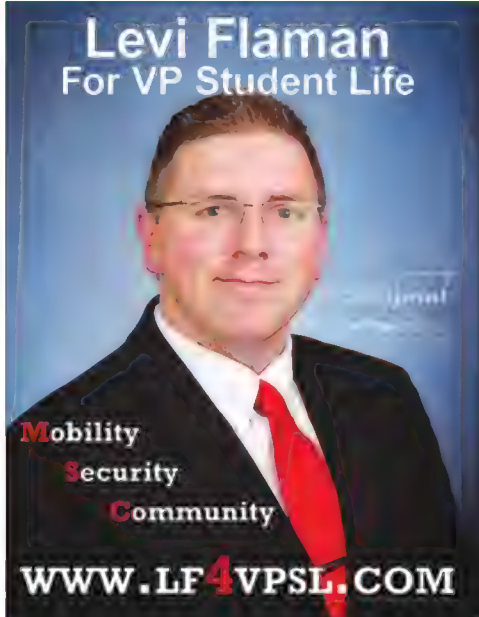
ZACH: I feel like she's come into the room to give me some terrible news.
ADAIRE: It's the folders, the colours and the coat. I feel like she came into the room to put my legs in stirrups and then giggle about my vagina with me, and maybe give me a pap smear and tell me it's not that bad while I cry and she gives me a pink lollipop.
ZACH: I like how friendly she is.
KEVIN: They're on her other poster, but her points actually make sense. They're specific and only in four words. I don't really know what Fahim and Cody want to do. And they're running for president. She's running for VPA.
JON: Instead of Marina Banister it could say "Have you been tested for HPV?"
OUMAR: I always get tested.
ADAIRE: Marina Banister. Make sure you're checked out. This poster is about her and only her. It doesn't matter what she's running for and what her mandate is.
ZACH: But she has her shit together.



A campaign poster for Cody Bondarchuck. It features a portrait of Cody smiling. The text reads: 'VOTE MARCH 2 & 3', 'votoonline', 'www.su.ualberta.ca/vote', 'SUBprint', 'CODY BONDARCHUCK FOR PRESIDENT', 'CAMPUS EQUITY', 'TUITION STRATEGY', 'STUDENT VOICE', 'VOTECODY.COM #UASUVOTE'.

CODY BONDARCHUCK PRESIDENT

KEVIN: So campus equity. What does that mean?
OUMAR: Using the Green and Gold is lazy. Get your own colours.
JOSH: He stole the speech bubble from Bell Let's Talk.
OUMAR: Cody Let's Talk.
KEVIN: It's just so vague.
ADAIRE: I think the design is fresh.
JON: I feel like he made this his Gmail icon and he's invading my Google doc.
ZACH: It's honestly one of the less offensive posters here.
JON: Where the hell is his dog?
KEVIN: I wish he chose a photo without a background for this. It's odd.
OUMAR: The real question is, who is that in the background? That could be anybody. That could be Indira making a comeback. That could be Navneet showing her endorsement for Cody.



A campaign poster for Levi Flaman. It features a portrait of Levi in a suit and red tie. The text reads: 'Levi Flaman For VP Student Life', 'Mobility Security Community', 'WWW.LF4VPSL.COM'.

LEVI FLAMAN VP STUDENT LIFE

ADAIRE: NO.
KEVIN: It looks like he wants to sell me a house.
ZACH: He looks like a realtor.
OUMAR: He's the principal.
ZACH: He looks a lot like the Bears football coach.
OUMAR: He looks like my dad.
ZACH: I don't think this guy would represent my interests as a student.
KEVIN: Security?
ADAIRE: Maybe he's selling an alarm system.
ZACH: The white around all of them makes it look really cut rate.
KEVIN: He looks like a nice guy though.
OUMAR: He looks like he'll drive you to soccer practice, make sure you're safe by walking you home and he's the head of the community organization.
JOSH: He's got multiple languages on most of his branding, I hope it's all grammatically correct.



JORDAN SIMAO
VP STUDENT LIFE

ALL: Whoa.
ZACH: That hurts me.
ADAIRE: It's kind of fun. Very Pop Art.
JOSH: Very acid tab.
KEVIN: It's an evolution of the year when everybody did black and white outlines of their faces.
JOSH: You don't even know what he looks like.
ADAIRE: Do I need to?
OUMAR: "Persistent practical leadership" doesn't tell us anything.
ADAIRE: Why does he have no chin? He's barely there. The typeface is fun but it's too juvenile. We're not preteen girls.



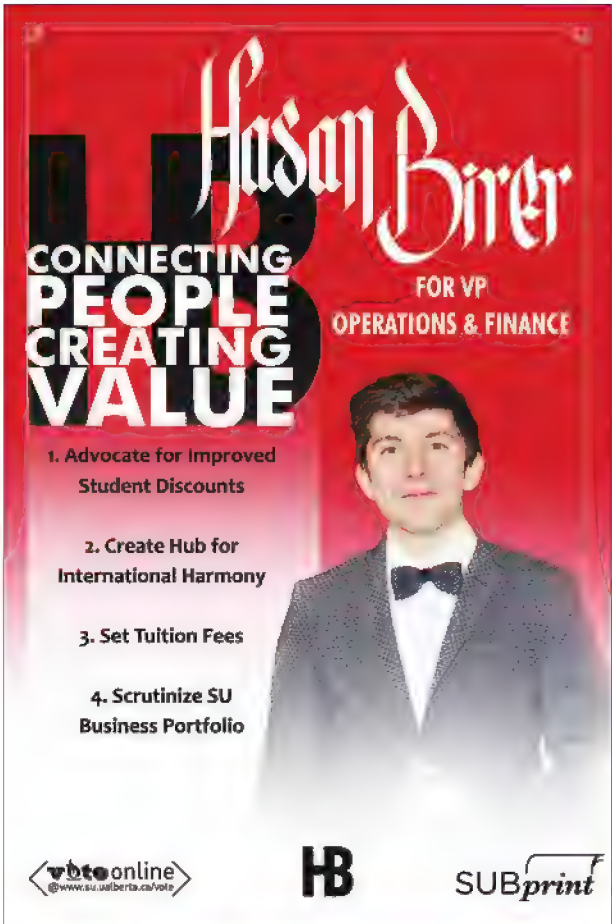
TAIMUR MALIK
VP OPS - FI

JOSH: It looks like a Mariah Carey album.
OUMAR: I can barely see his face.
ADAIRE: Does he have hair?
OUMAR: So by "We the Union," he means 22.5 per cent of students.
ADAIRE: What is "We the Union"?
KEVIN: It's like "We the North."
ZACH: I hate the Raptors.
KEVIN: I like the dollar sign on Ops-Fi.
JON: That means he knows about money.
ADAIRE: He is money. Look at his scarf.
JOSH: "Increase revenue of SU businesses" is literally his job description.
ADAIRE: This is one of the best I've seen.
JON: He overexposed it so you can draw his hair for him.
KEVIN: He looks like Draco Malfoy.
OUMAR: Slytherin colours. It's hard to rip on it. It's so basic.



FRANCESCA EL GHOSSEIN
VP STUDENT LIFE

OUMAR: Whoa.
KEVIN: She blends in with the background.
OUMAR: I can't read the type.
KEVIN: You should get a photographer who knows what they're doing.
JOSH: SubPrint's on her shirt.
JON: I like her SubPrint shirt.
ADAIRE: I want one. Where'd she get it?
KEVIN: Her points are the most typical SU election points.
ZACH: Isn't "Advocating for student agency" and "Supporting student initiative" the same thing?
OUMAR: Someone needs to explain these buzzwords. They assume that we know these things.
KEVIN: They're all just copy-pasted on.
OUMAR: Very basic.
JOSH: All the darkness makes her look like a Sith Lord.
ZACH: She should add more purple.
ADAIRE: I can't see her face.
JON: She needs to come out of the shadows to win.



HASAN BIRER
VP OPS - FI

KEVIN: This one is awful.
JON: What's his name? Hasan Brier? Beer?
ADAIRE: It's like a rom-com.
JON: Buffy the Vampire Slayer.
KEVIN: In the 80s.
JON: It's Hell's Kitchen type.
KEVIN: He's dressed like a waiter.
ADAIRE: It looks like he's going to take me on a date, serve me food and then suck my blood after.
KEVIN: "Create a Hub for international harmony." Ok.
OUMAR: How are you going to set tuition fees?
JOSH: He'll sit in an office and think it over.
KEVIN: It's like the cover of a self-published book on Amazon.
ADAIRE: I feel like he's going to lead me into a waltz and step on my feet.
JON: He lives in Sherwood Park.
JOSH: He's doing his button up.
OUMAR: He's undoing his button.
ZACH: He doesn't have a button. He's barely holding it together.
JON: I don't think he's holding anything together.



KEVIN WANG
VP STUDENT LIFE

ALL: Whoa.
ADAIRE: Oh my god, I love it.
ZACH: It looks like the cover of a teen magazine.
OUMAR: His eyes are looking up in ecstasy.
ADAIRE: I wish it was "Vote Wang."
ZACH: He's hosting YTV!
JOSH: And having an orgasm.
ZACH: Why does he have a Blackberry barcode?
KEVIN: Those are QR codes. You need an app to read it. No one will.
JOSH: "Making the university more inclusive for the diversity of students" is terrible grammar.
ADAIRE: It's like he's looking away from all the visual distractions of his poster.
ZACH: He's also in front of President.
ADAIRE: I just can't. It's screaming at us.
OUMAR: It's too much.
JON: It looks like a student newspaper cover.
ZACH: He's excited about governance, and I like that.
JON: This has energy.



ROBYN PACHES
VP OPS - FI

ADAIRE: He looks so scared.
KEVIN: Why is his cardigan not done up? I don't like that.
ADAIRE: The dark colours in the portrait aren't helping.
ZACH: It's such a business kid photo. Every business kid I know has this exact photo on their Facebook.
KEVIN: The quality of the photo is ok. The pose is really boring.
ADAIRE: He looks buff.
OUMAR: Revitalize L'Express? What does he need to revitalize? Online healthy food guide? You're managing our money. Who's going to read this? I don't want anybody telling me how to eat.
JOSH: Half of it looks like an African flag.
ZACH: He took the photos for each of his posters ten minutes apart.
KEVIN: He should have said he's going to Patch up the finances.
ZACH: It looks like he's in a wind tunnel.
ADAIRE: It looks like someone ran up to him and was like 'Photo!'

Vote

PATRICK X. CAJINA

for

VP EXTERNAL


March 2nd & 3rd

» Collaborate with the federal government to create a national post-secondary act.

» Advocate to regulate Mandatory Non Instructional Fees and the International Differential Fee.

» Fight for a renewal in mental health funding for universities on a per student basis.

www.patrickcajina.com



PATRICK X. CAJINA
VP EXTERNAL

OUMAR: Oh boy here we go. Whoa.
JON: Well great.
KEVIN: This fucking photographer. There's the subject and the super overexposed background.
OUMAR: It looks like garbage.
JOSH: It looks like he's emerging from Heaven.
JON: How are you supposed to vote for him when he's dead?
OUMAR: It's the second coming of Christ.
ADAIRE: God has given you me.
JOSH: It's funny that he has the X. As if there are a lot of Patrick Cajinas around.
JON: The only thing I can focus on is the Abercrombie logo on his shirt.
ADAIRE: And the suspenders.
ZACH: I didn't realize those were suspenders at first. I thought he had a tie looped over his shoulder.
OUMAR: It's a gun holster. He's a detective.
ADAIRE: His face looks tiny because of the light. And why does 'for' get its own fucking line? I hate that typeface. What is that?
OUMAR: He wants to pop out.
ZACH: This poster looks like it was made in a very short amount of time.
OUMAR: Why Abercrombie? He could have gone with J.Crew.
JON: Because he's in high school.
KEVIN: I don't think so because he's ran for like 6 years in a row.
JON: He has nice eyebrows.
OUMAR: Jesus did have perfect eyebrows.


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VOTE MARCH 2ND/3

Protect the future of mental health services for students through community partnerships

Domestic and International employment opportunities



MIKE

SANDARE

VICE PRESIDENT EXTERNAL

MIKE SANDARE
VP EXTERNAL

ADAIRE: Do they just get their friends to design the posters?
JON: This is the alternate movie poster for *Creed*. Oumar: He's going to get sued by Sundance.
ADAIRE: MIKE.
KEVIN: Another overexposed photo.
OUMAR: He's going to assault people into voting for him.
JON: He's going to assault student fees.
KEVIN: The photo has some awful editing. His face will turn out yellow.
ADAIRE: The most important type should always be near the face because it draws your eye. Ugh.
OUMAR: He left all that space for us to vandalize his poster. And I'm thanking him for that.
ADAIRE: Is he an actual boxer?
JON: It's a smart tactic to make his election points so small that you don't even pay attention to them. "International student employment."
ADAIRE: Oh my god. "Ships." "Ships." The fact that "partnerships" is hyphenated and then "ships" is just hanging there. Oh my god. I'm going to draw a boat on every single one. I can't even handle this. Never ever ever ever ever.
KEVIN: This looks like a boxing comedy. It's like a movie where the President has to start boxing.
ADAIRE: Honestly, I can't.

REED LARSEN

FOR VICE PRESIDENT EXTERNAL

BE A PART OF IT

REED4VP.COM


MENTAL HEALTH
EMPLOYMENT
TUITION
HOUSING



REED LARSEN
VP EXTERNAL

ALL: Meth!
JON: This poster is huge.
JOSH: It's a lot of face per square inch.
KEVIN: It seems kind of monotone.
ZACH: I don't really believe that he wants to be a part of it.
ADAIRE: The all-caps is like he's yelling.
JON: He's setting himself up for graffiti.
ADAIRE: I'm a white guy.
JON: I'm a white guy with meth. Do you want to be a part of it?
JOSH: Meth will affect your mental health, your employment, your ability to pay tuition and your housing.
JON: Thank you Reed Larsen.
JOSH: Vanilla.
ADAIRE: It's like vanilla without sugar. There's nothing sweet about this.
ZACH: Milk-flavoured ice cream.
JON: You can literally take out his photo and put in a cob of corn and be like 'Hey guys it's your friendly neighbourhood cob of corn, I'll be tackling tuition with my meth empire! Want to be a part of it?' and it would be a joke candidate.

SU ELECTION
MARCH 2nd & 3rd



VOTE
COLIN
CHAMPAGNE
BOARD OF GOVERNORS
REPRESENTATIVE

ACTIVELY KEEPING
STUDENTS IN THE GAME

COLIN CHAMPAGNE
B.O.G. REP.

ADAIRE: The first things I see are his face and the bricks.
KEVIN: He's like the cast member from the Entourage that got cut.
OUMAR: I like the Wall Street suit. He can take me to a fancy restaurant and tell me about my taxes.
JOSH: What's "Actively keeping students in the game?"
ZACH: What's the game?
OUMAR: He's advocating for varsity sports.
KEVIN: We're not here to play games, we're here to learn.
JON: I wish he had shaved.
ADAIRE: The typeface and the way it looks is very Christian. I feel like he's going to give us a sermon.

“AT LEAST
THE POSTERS
AREN'T BORING
THIS YEAR.”

FINAL THOUGHTS

KEVIN: Last year they were boring. At least they're not this year.
ZACH: People are trying different things.
ADAIRE: Kevin's is engaging.
ZACH: I can appreciate that Mike went for a gimmick.
ADAIRE: You can tell that people are trying. I would say that overall they're bad/ok to pretty ok/good. But a lot are too similar with that overexposed photography and the empty space beside the face.
OUMAR: Marina's is definitely the cleanest one. When I see it I trust her. She's a doctor.
KEVIN: I'm surprised no one went for a Star Wars theme this year.
JON: I feel like nobody went for any theme. Except for Hell's Kitchen.

RESULTS

BEST POSTER

"Playin' Doctor"

by Marina Banister

WORST POSTER

"Meth!"

by Reed Larsen

SPIRIT AWARDS

"Gettin' Hot in Hell's Kitchen" by Hasan Birer

"Vote Wang" by Kevin Wang

MOST FATAL DESIGN ERRORS

"KO"

by Mike Sandare

MOST OVER EXPOSED

"Hairway to Heaven"

by Taimur Malik

OVER EXPOSURE FINALISTS

"Abercrombie" by Patrick X. Cajina

"Meth!" by Reed Larsen

MOST LIKELY TO BE VANDALIZED

"KO"

by Mike Sandare

MOST EASILY TRANSFERABLE TO A REAL ESTATE SALES CONTEXT

"Walmart Portrait Studio"

by Levi Flaman

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EDITORIAL COMMENT

SU elections should attract, not repel students

WELCOME TO THE SU ELECTIONS, WHERE EVERYTHING'S MADE UP and the platform points don't matter.

It's no secret that the Students' Union suffers from a perception problem. But the problem isn't that students have a bad view of them; it's that they have no view of them. A record 22.5 per cent of students voted in the last election, about 7,000 out of 35,000 students. That's not a number to be proud about. Luckily, the SU is in the midst of its annual advertising blitz: elections.

This is my fourth time covering elections in some way or another, and it seems like we publish an opinion piece or editorial about buzzwords every year. Looking at this year's posters and platforms, it's obvious that the message isn't getting across. If the posters didn't have candidates' faces plastered over them, I would have no idea who is who based just on their points. This presents many problems. For one, it's obvious that there's little political diversity in the Students' Union. I might agree with most of their political leanings, but confronting opposing views are always a good way to keep our own in check, especially in professional politics.

But the second problem is worse. The conformity of the candidates points to elections being nothing more than popularity contests. If I can't tell the difference between the candidates of a race, I'll vote for the one that had the luck of talking to me in HUB — but only if I liked them. If I didn't, I'll vote for the other one. Unless you live in Ward 12, that's not the way voting usually works in Canada.

I see a way to fix this: use the election season to heavily promote the Students' Union. Don't just tell people what you're going to do, tell them what you're currently doing, what the Students' Union is currently doing and how you're going to improve on it. This is the best time to inform campus of what the point of the SU even is, and to convince them why they should care. I'm still not positive if I care, and I work for The Gateway — what does that say about the 77.5 per cent that didn't even vote?

We keep seeing examples in more important elections of politicians lowering themselves to the level of us commoners to wild success. Voters love it when politicians pretend not to be smug, arrogant scumbags. Take a look across the border. Bernie Sanders and Donald Trump have the most fervent supporters, and both are doing the same thing: telling it like it is to look less fake and more relatable to ordinary people. Voters, especially in an election where all the platforms are the same anyway, will turn to the candidate they can relate to the most.

The SU needs more relatability, and that starts before the next crew even steps into office. Candidates shouldn't just campaigning to get the seat, they should be campaigning to make sure students care when they're actually sitting in it. I'm sure a number of SU hopefuls want to enter politics after university, too, and there's no better way to start building up a voter base.

Last year's corruption and vote tampering during elections definitely didn't help the SU's image, or the image of politics in general. Future politicians are already stooping to shady tactics at a level where only 5,000 people care. I hope there's none of that this election because it really doesn't pay off. Someone will find out eventually. Instead, just get out there and tell people what actually sets you apart from other candidates.

Maybe one day the SU can represent the entire student body instead of just 22.5 per cent. When they do, we'll have a better experience not just for the students, but for the SU itself.

Kevin Schenk
ONLINE EDITOR

MICROEDITORIAL COMMENT

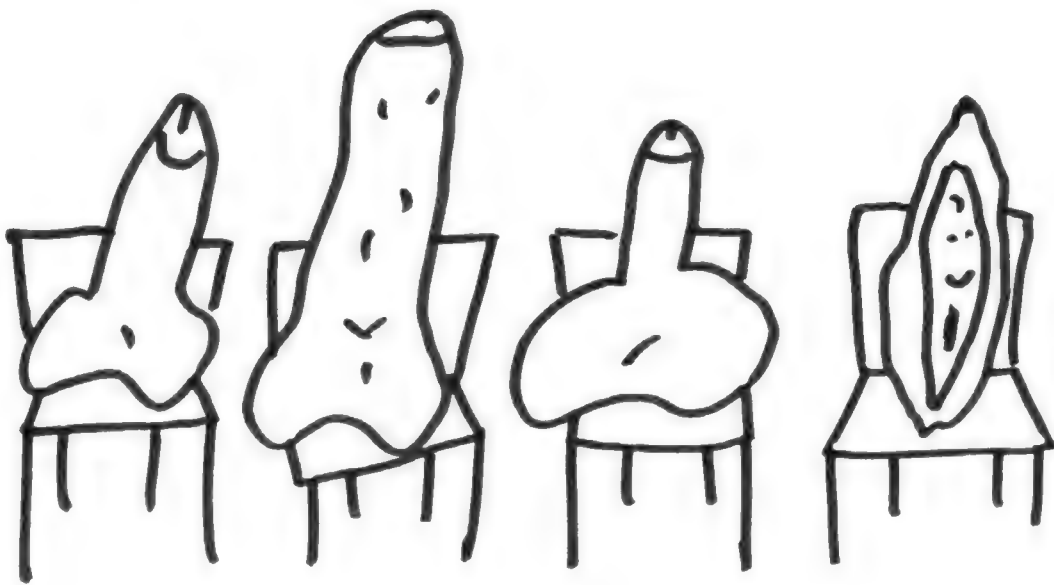
One last laugh

YEAH PRO-LIFE WROTE AGAIN. IT'S A GOOD TIME TO SAY THAT THE Gateway allows students to express a range of viewpoints and that we also don't necessarily endorse what we publish in the Opinion section. The more miscellaneous the section is, the better.

Also, since it's our last year covering the elections in a weekly newspaper, we thought we'd go 100 per cent rag with the edtoon and only draw genitals. The Students' Union elections are very important and we will make a concerted effort to inform students about electing their representatives. We're going for one last laugh.

Josh Greschner
OPINION EDITOR

SUB STAGE FORUM



SU ERECTIONS We took more risks with this edtoon than the candidates did at the forums.

ADAIRE BEATTY & JOSH GRESCHNER

letters to the editor

FROM THE WEB

Purity Test shenanigans

(Re: Purity Test 2016 by Gateway staff & volunteers, Feb. 10)

Soooooooo this happened. Whoops. :D
SITH LORD
You scored 728.5.

Sam Jones
VIA WEB

got -1 HAAAAHA. No comment.

INNOCENT
VIA WEB

Why is this Star Wars themed???

Ting
VIA WEB

I like doing the purity test in the actual paper over online because I enjoy seeing the point values associated with specific answers. (Lindsay liked this)

Erin
VIA WEB

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Joke candidates make SU Elections a little more bearable

Do you remember Sesame Street? How about the song "One of these things is not like the other, one of these things just doesn't belong..." Immediately three firemen and a

tennis pro would appear. The Students' Union elections have a tennis pro: in fact, they have two.

Space Moose and Kris the Masturbation Man are taking the presidential election campaign to the edge. The have high hopes to take the U of A into a brave new world.

Masturbation Man wants to promote awareness and universality of masturbation and introduce a stringent campaign against clone discrimination. Space Moose, on the other hand, supports masturbation nut wants to move beyond it to hardcore pornography and complete martial arts training for Safewalkers.

It's a race between the socialist masturbator and the guy who, when it comes to political wings, "sits right on the tail feathers, near the anus."

Looking down at the competition, Moose has no qualms about stating that, "for far too long, the SU has been represented by a pack of spineless political ninnies. The time has come to tear the U of A a new asshole."

With the little guy in mind, Moose is running on issues that have long since been forgotten or completely ignored by the SU. His policies of bringing back the strap, eliminating the stanine system, re-opening Keillor Road, recognizing Faculte Saint-Jean as a distinct society and achieving the complete separation of school and state (among others), are intended to bring the SU back to students.

Masturbation Man claims his arguments are based on the facts. To support his campaign against clone discrimination, he pointed out that only "six" cloned sheep are currently

attending the U of A. His campaign team follows a proud tradition of masturbation. "I happen to know as a fact that Jim Carrey has masturbated in every room in his house," said Masturbation Man.

Leading into a quality versus quantity issue, Masturbation Man said only that "I do not want to confront Space Moose directly, as I wish to keep this campaign dignified, legitimate and respectable. I am flattered Space Moose would notice a lowly Masturbation Man. And I would like to thank Space Moose for coming on board and bringing us closer to our goal of universality."

"Here's an insect," was Space Moose's response.

Other presidential candidates who have yet to be declared a pro-masturbation stance include Stephen Curran, Hoops Harrison, David Losey and James McLeod.

Mark N. Barker
MARCH 6, 1997

Letters to the editor should be sent to opinion@gateway.ualberta.ca (no attachments, please).

The Gateway reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity, and to refuse publication of any letter it deems racist, sexist, libellous, or otherwise hateful in nature. The Gateway also reserves the right to publish letters online.

Letters to the editor should be no longer than 350 words, and should include the author's name, program, year of study, and student ID number to be considered for publication.



KEVIN SCHENK

UAlberta Pro-life: Administration is charging \$17,500 to express an opinion



Cameron Wilson

UALBERTA PRO-LIFE

Quite literally, speech on the University of Alberta campus is not free. I know this because my club, UAlberta Pro-Life, was told that if we wanted to host a display on campus that we would have to pay the U of A \$17,500. This cost is far more than any university club could pay, and also was obviously intended to be that way. The worst part of it, however, is that the costs were demanded of our club because of the potential illegal actions of others — the behaviour of students in UAlberta Pro-Life has been above reproach at every event we have participated in.

This is a dangerous precedent. It means that if one group of students decides that they do not like the arguments made by a second group of students, then the first group can silence the second group simply by threatening mass lawlessness if the second group is allowed to hold any events. In short, the U of A has calculated that it is easier to silence an unpopular opinion than it is to protect their speech rights on campus.

I know my club and our opinions on abortion are not popular. I know many people dislike the displays we put up which show what abortion does to a pre-born child. But being uncomfortable with the way someone puts forward an argument, disliking a certain intellectual position, or even hating the people who are trying to advance that position are not good reasons to silence an intellectual opponent.

...hating the people who are trying to advance (a) position (isn't a) good reason to silence an intellectual opponent.

In fact, I would argue, allowing that person to make his or her argument gives you an opportunity to demonstrate that the way they made their point is offensive, or that their logic is flawed. All shutting your opponent down does is show that you are afraid of discussion and that you have allowed fear to prevent everyone else from pursuing the truth by asking questions of the status quo.

You don't have to like UAlberta Pro-Life to recognize that the security fee

imposed on us was meant to prevent us from being able to present our argument. And if the "heckler's veto" is allowed to stand in this case, who will stop it from happening in another context? What if an oil company hired thugs to break up an environmentalist protest on campus, should the environmentalists be forced to pay for the right to speak because others have threatened violence against them? Freedom of speech is for offensive speech, otherwise it wouldn't need to be protected. Furthermore, if you want to enjoy its benefits then you have to tolerate others enjoying those same benefits as well.

These are the stakes of the drama that is playing out around UAlberta Pro-Life. If UAlberta Pro-Life is successfully silenced by the U of A, then every other group which does or says something unpopular on campus is at risk of being laden with crippling security costs to make their argument. Good bye to the environmentalists on campus. Good bye to the rights of Muslim students to practice their faith in a sometimes hostile environment. In fact, good bye to the rights of all unpopular minorities. If you are scared by this picture, then you should let university officials know that you are upset with the erosion of freedom of speech on campus. Make your voice heard.

Studying in the Alumni Room doesn't indicate bad time management



Ashton Mucha

OPINION WRITER

Huffpost College released an article about a 24-hour, quiet, study room enclosed with glass on three sides and dubbed "The Fishbowl" at Wesleyan University. The article says that students who choose to study here are "put(ing) their all-nighters on display," allowing for bragging rights on their sleep-deprived, coffee-induced, late-night procrastination turned cram sessions.

The University of Alberta's Alumni Room in SUB is rather Fishbowl-esque, but I don't think that students are consciously "acting out a long-form performance art piece on exhaustion" as much as they are simply trying to be prepared for tomorrow's test.

The article assumes a few things. First, that students walking past The Fishbowl are filled with anxiety as they see these hard-working students and conclude that they're more intelligent because they're studying through the night. Second, that the students behind the glass wall are proud and satisfied that people walking by feel that way. And third, that the people who stay up all night to study are doing so because they procrastinated for so long that they now have no choice but to sacrifice their beauty sleep.

First of all, I'm not sure about Wesleyan University, but the Alumni Room at the U of A is one of the few silent rooms on campus open 24-hours. Perhaps some people study better at school and away from their music-blasting roommates. And perhaps people are "choosing" to put themselves on display in the The Fishbowl, or the Alumni Room, because they really don't have any other options.

When I walk past the Alumni Room

in SUB, I see people studying. I don't get anxious, and I don't automatically assume they're smarter. I assume that this spot works for them because it is close to their classes or close to Stadium car park, or they simply like the spot.

Perhaps some people study better at school and away from their music-blasting roommates.

I have studied in the Alumni Room only a handful of times, and to be honest, I don't like it. Primarily because the glass walls, or rather what is on the other side of them, are distracting to me: people walking by are distracting, the gradual shift from daylight to night is distracting. But fifth-year Psychology student Marina lives for that room. For her, the location is great because it's close to coffee and food, the room has couches if you need a quick nap, there are several outlets, and the glass walls bring in light and create a sense of openness. This last point I can definitely get behind. It's why I'd sooner study in ECHA (even though it's far from "my side" of campus) with its bright colours, open concept, and huge windows rather than a brick, windowless, prison-like seminar room in Education.

Lastly, I don't think it's fair to assume that people studying through the night are doing so because they're all procrastinators. People may have full days of classes, or work, and their only free time is during the night. Other people work better at night. And some people, as Marina mentions, "study overnight out of fear — fear of not completing an assignment (to the best of their abilities), or not doing well on a test," not solely because they left their work to the last minute.

Be informed about toxic shock syndrome



Pia Araneta

SEX COLUMNIST

"Don't leave your tampon in for too long. You'll get TSS." I remember the words every mother passes along to their daughter as soon as she starts bleeding out of her vagina (after realizing pads are in no way a practical way to live one's life). "What's TSS?" I asked, harrowed by fear. "Toxic Shock Syndrome."

I inquired no further. The name "Toxic Shock Syndrome" was severe enough to know that I didn't want any part of it. Like an obedient, hygienic child, I changed my tampon regularly, propelled by the underlying notion that TSS would claim me right then and there. It sounded like something you could be stricken with on the spot, erasing any fond memories or hopes of living a virtuous life. My fear even provoked me to purchase a menstrual cup — eliminating the chance for any of the damn cotton burritos from ever claiming my life. After living in this unbearable manner, I stopped to ask myself what we all one day stop to ask ourselves: what the fuck

is TSS, even? I had been living my life as a nomad, hoping to lay low enough to be unnoticed by the definitive radar of TSS, until I realized I actually had no clue what the hell TSS even entailed.

TSS is a very rare, but serious condition produced by *Staphylococcus aureus* (staph) bacteria that mainly affects women using tampons when menstruating. Side effects may include headaches, vomiting, diarrhea, redness of eyes and confusion — universal symptoms we harbour in our daily labours — but can also cause hypotension (low blood pressure), which can eventually lead to death. Holy shit. Death via tampon sounds absolutely horrifying — like worse than SARS and the grasshopper outbreak of 2003. TSS is most commonly found in women under the age of 30, but can also be found in men through cuts, burns or bites. If caught early, TSS is easily treatable with fluids or antibiotics.

In regards to prevention, doctors recommend washing your hands before plunging into your genitals and also making sure you've taken out your last tampon. So if you're one of those people who harvests tampons in your gooch, like some greedy cotton-ball fetishist, I warn you to be very careful out there. Also, avoid using super-absorbent

tampons because apparently what you think is efficient and practical is actually the equivalent of Satan's Q-tip.

Case and point: Lauren Wasser, a 24-year-old model is in an ongoing lawsuit against Kotex, after being a victim of TSS and losing her leg. Yes, TSS claimed this beautiful woman's leg after developing into gangrene — an infection that causes your body tissue to decompose (so now you can add 'flesh-eating disease' on the list of symptoms TSS can fuck you up with). After amputating the infected area, Wasser was able to rid herself from the infection, but still struggles to raise TSS awareness. Her lawsuit aims for greater transparency about the harming effects of tampons, rather than eliminating the use of tampons altogether.

So you see, we are living in a world of danger and disaster; cancer is claiming the lives of all our idols; dolphins are being plucked from the water for selfies, only to die in the arms of tourists; TSS is causing confusion and leprosy. It's best to run now. If you know a friend, family or any loved one menstruating, make sure to give them your undivided attention. Be patient with them, be kind, and most importantly, be careful.



UBC pride flag burning shows hate, needs to be addressed

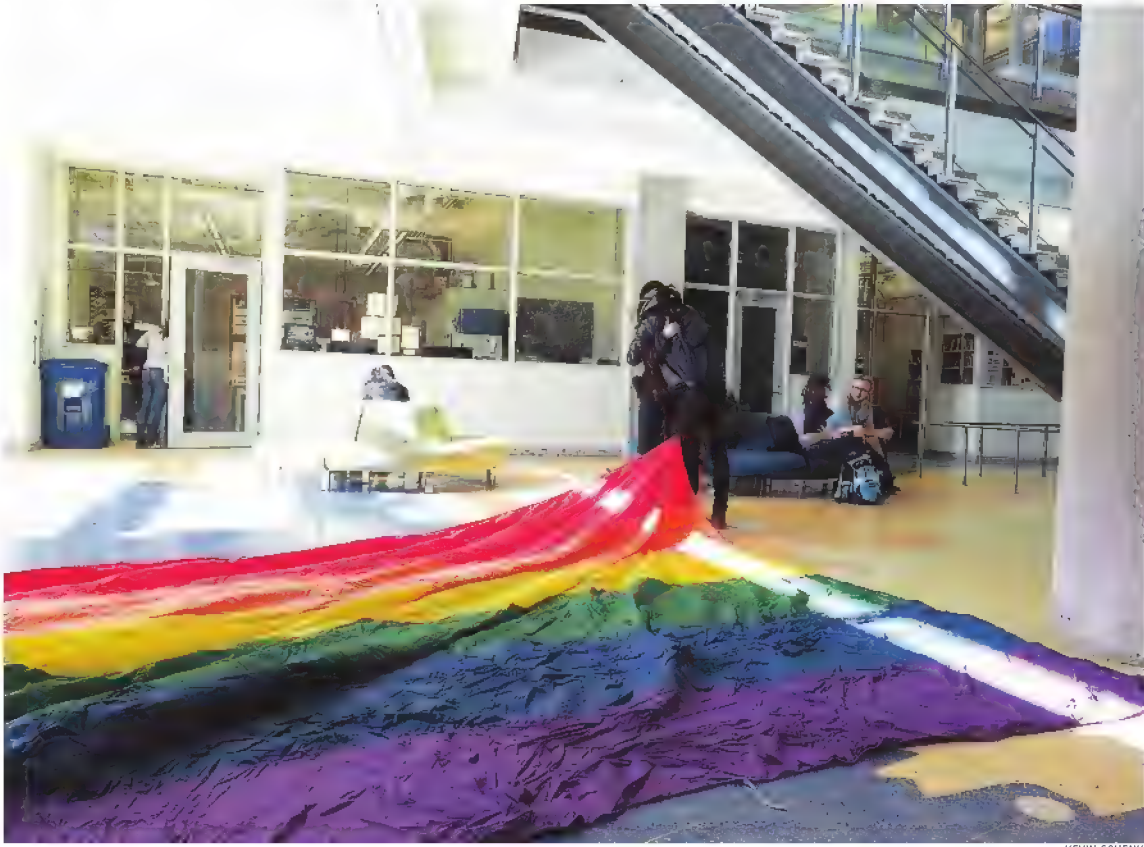


Sofia Osborne
OPINION WRITER

Over the B.C. Family Day long weekend UBC's OUTweek pride flag was burned in what the university condemns as an act of hate. After an investigation the police have found the alleged perpetrator and believe that the flag burning was an isolated incident. Fear plagued the pride celebrations at UBC this year, and the university's Pride Collective felt it necessary to cancel a transgender support parade and to enhance the security at other events.

It may be tempting to dismiss this flag burning as inconsequential, but for a group that is already marginalized and violently victimized it can spark new anxieties in a campus community where they should feel safe. If homophobic sentiments like this are allowed to fester and grow tragedy could occur.

One tradition of intimidation stands out in UBC's history: the Lady Godiva ride. The legend of Godiva says she rode on horseback through the streets of Coventry clothed in only her long hair to convince her husband, the Earl, to stop his oppressive taxation of the people. Apparently she is the patron



KEVIN SCHENK

saint of engineers because, "her story captures the essence of selfless dedication to the betterment of society, which all engineers are bound to." In her honour UBC engineering students had a naked woman ride on horseback through the campus

for many years, only stopping after the École Polytechnique massacre in 1989.

In a time when engineering was even more of a boys club than it is today, a spectacle like the Lady Godiva ride would not only make female

students feel unwelcome in the faculty but downright afraid. It might be easy to laugh off the ride or the flag burning as just a prank, but as we ignore stunts like these it may escalate into violent acts against people.

The École Polytechnique massacre

was an act of violent hate against female engineering students. It may not have been at UBC but it just as easily could have been. Despite some labelling the gunman Marc Lépine as a lone mad man, he declared himself anti-feminist and specifically targeted women — he blamed them for ruining his life. This may seem like an extreme example and something that couldn't happen 27 years later (at least in Canada), but I would argue that if we allow this homophobic incident at UBC to be swept under the rug we risk normalizing threats against a group of people, and we could pay for it down the road.

It can spark new anxieties in a campus community where they should feel safe.

I'm not against flag burning as a form of speech. But whoever did this didn't go buy a pride flag and burn it, they stole the UBC OUTweek pride flag and incinerated it, leaving behind just the brass rings. This isn't about flag burning, it's not about freedom of speech, it's about threats and intimidation. So let's not allow this to be seen as a waste of police resources or just another example of university students being too coddled. Let's see it for what it really is: dangerous.

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COMPILED & PHOTOGRAPHED BY **Christina Varvis**



Ardo Ahmed
ARTS IV

GATEWAY: Describe your outfit:

AHMED: I like to be comfortable! I'm wearing a beanie cause I have a bad hair day today and this sweater is just comfortable. I like long jackets, like a slouchy, careless look. That's that I was going for.

GATEWAY: How does your style change day-to-day?

AHMED: It changes with my personality I think and what I'm influenced by. Somedays I feel super edgy and I want to dress in all black, and then somedays, I'm going to wear a hot pink sweater and kill it! It all depends how I feel.

GATEWAY: Can you describe what you may be influenced by?

AHMED: Being in design, I'm always looking for inspiration everywhere, and then, in that design community, seeing how other people dress, so I guess people here [on campus] inspire me. New York Fashion Week is inspiring too.



KIERAN CHRYSLER

New FAB gallery exhibit brings consumer culture to surface

GALLERY PREVIEW

Morgan Wedderspoon's "From the Surface"

WHEN Feb. 23 to March 19, 2016
WHERE Fab Gallery
HOW MUCH Free

Kate McInnes
ARTS & CULTURE STAFF

Morgan Wedderspoon is petite, soft-spoken and unassuming, but you would never know that from her art. Through bold imagery and deep political undertones, her work speaks volumes.

From Feb. 23 to March 19, the Fine Arts Building Gallery will host Wedderspoon's final presentation for her Masters in Fine Arts program, "From the Surface." The display — which features pieces she has been working on since she first arrived at the University of Alberta — aims to survey the legacy of our consumer culture and explore environmental stewardship through woodcut and digital printmaking.

The works of art featured in "From the Surface" summarize well Wedderspoon's time the U of A: almost all of her creations incorporate words or phrases she

"just picked up and carried with (her)" over the course of her master's degree. Her biggest inspiration, however, came from just before she arrived in Edmonton, when she spent a year teaching English in Thailand after she received her bachelor's degree from Queen's University.

"I think living there actually really changed me. It was a clash of traditional culture and modern culture — the kind of modern culture that's kind of taking over the world," Wedderspoon says.

"That was very uncomfortable, especially as an outsider ... but it's the kind of discomfort people need more of in their lives."

"I'm trying to think about what my place is. What my culture (is). We produce and discard at such a rapid rate."

MORGAN WEDDERSPOON
ARTIST

Her work is also heavily influenced by the recent categorization of our geological time as the Anthropocene epoch, in which human activities have become Earth's most powerful force. Through printmaking, Wedderspoon hopes to shed light on the need for environmental awareness in an era dominated by consumerism.

"Taking objects and asking what they mean in the bigger picture ... is important, especially since we're in a

moment of crisis and we're starting to characterize this period of geological time as one that we've had a lot of influence on," she says.

The theme of "From the Surface" is, arguably, the effects of time. Her exhibit includes a table organizing objects according to their time and rate of decay, and a mural representing "built environments," though it is up to the viewer to decide if it is in the process of being created or destroyed.

"I'm trying to think about what my place is," she says. "What legacy my culture (is) leaving behind, especially because we produce and discard at such a rapid rate."

It is part of her fixation on time that drew Wedderspoon to printmaking, a practice dating back to the 12th century. Printmaking makes up a small subset of the fine arts offered by the Department of Art and Design, but it is one of the most diverse: for "From the Surface," Wedderspoon used woodcut, etching, lithography and digital imaging techniques to create her art.

"It's a nice marriage of old and new," she says. "It's appealing because of its history."

After she graduates from her program, Wedderspoon figures she'll stay in Edmonton, at least for a little while.

"There's a great arts community, (it's) very supportive and very warm and welcoming," she says. "You don't find that everywhere, so I really appreciate that."



GTWY VIBE

Too many Pablos, not enough Kanye



Kanye West
The Life of Pablo
Def Jam/G.O.O.D. Music
Tidal (until further notice)

Oumar Salifou
MULTIMEDIA EDITOR

The Kanye West media circus began on Feb. 26, 2015 at the Brit Awards when West performed his single “All Day,” a trap influenced hip hop anthem based on a melody whistled by Paul McCartney in 1969. Back then, McCartney wanted to create a song based on Pablo Picasso’s painting “The Old Guitarist” — a depiction of a haunting man backed by a blue sea. Little did Picasso know, he was creating art that more than a century later would inspire through generations and manifest itself as a trap banger performed by a mob of young black rappers backed by pyrotechnic flame-throwers.

Being able to manipulate and create uniquely has classified West

into a class of his own artistically. Since his *College Dropout* debut in 2004 he’s been arguably the most influential artist of his generation. Pablo Picasso is among three figures that Kanye classifies himself with on his latest release *The Life of Pablo*. The other Pablo’s include St. Paul (Paul is Pablo in Spanish) who was an apostle in ancient Rome, and Pablo Escobar a Colombian drug king billionaire who controlled Columbia at the height of his power.

The parallels Kanye makes with his idols are legitimate when examined. Like Picasso, he was classically trained in his medium before becoming a solo artist and revolutionizing the genre with his

own take. Like Escobar he doesn’t hold back with his ego or material wealth. And like St. Paul, he strives to spread his version of the truth throughout the world. These three figures set the bar at an unattainable height for Kanye to reach musically, each Pablo has their differences, thus on *TLOP* we see drastic contrast. You can see these differences in visions when comparing two tracks: “Ultralight Beam” and “Facts.” “Ultralight Beam” has a gospel chorus and lyrics focused on ideals of faith while “Facts” has ego-filled lyrics with an electronic trap beat. The conflicting ideals of Pablo Escobar’s ego and St. Paul’s gospel are embodied in conflict in these tracks. Those differences cannot be consolidated and devalue the cohesion of the album.

Kanye’s indecisiveness is also visible in his recent decisions outside of the studio, which adds another external influence to *TLOP*’s quality. Creatively, West has ventured into fashion with his Yeezy Adidas collaboration and has made it clear in interviews that he is primarily concerned with art

regardless of what form it takes. This is a noble cause for any artist to take up but it doesn’t lend itself to coherent musical projects. *The Life of Pablo* features eighteen tracks that don’t seem to have any relation to each other. The themes of gospel, trap, and hip hop music can all be felt throughout, but none shine forward as the central idea of the album, something that Kanye has strived for with his past studio releases. Regardless, Kanye still accomplishes great things on various tracks notably his return to traditional lyricism on “No More Parties in L.A.” However, the great moments are often overshadowed by the mediocre, as in the case of “Waves” where we see West venture into a pop realm, which hardcore fans had abandoned nearly a decade ago.

This being said, *TLOP* isn’t a bad album, but it is West’s weakest. Yeezus had an aggressive electronically backed feeling throughout. *808s and Heartbreaks* was a melancholic album with groundbreaking production. *Graduation* was uplifting in both its lyrics and

bright style compared to some of his other work. These characteristics made these albums great, and *TLOP* falls short because it simply can’t match West’s other records from start to finish. You can attribute this shortfall to many things: the Twitter antics, a focus on fashion, or even dealing with the realities of creative overachievement. Simply put, *The Life of Pablo* is the outcome of Kanye wanting to create everything at once.

Today Pablo Picasso’s painting “The Old Guitarist” resides in Kanye’s hometown at the Art Institute of Chicago, situating the two artists in a fitting proximity to each other. Pablo Escobar was killed in 1993, yet his legacy lives on in the form of braggadocio hip hop culture. The Bible does not clearly state when St. Paul died, implying that his gospel is immortal. Kanye’s connection to all three Pablos serves as a testament that genius can connect through generations and manifest itself in various forms. But the Pablos are a little too far apart to manifest into a magnificent record.

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Edmonton's newest live music venue set to drop

Amelia Knecht

ARTS & CULTURE WRITER

Edmonton's newest music venue, The Needle Vinyl Tavern, is set to open Thursday, March 10, with performances from the Vancouver based duo Harpoonist and The Axe Murderer and Saskatchewan's The Pistolwhips. Located in the former CKUA building on Jasper Ave, the 400-plus capacity venue promises live music seven days a week from both local and touring acts as well as lunch, dinner, and a weekend brunch menu.

In light of Edmonton's struggling music scene, The Needle hopes to fill the void that many recently closed venues have left and provide a place where anyone can come and enjoy live music.

"The fact of the matter is last year alone there were two independent movies produced about dead Edmonton music venues" says General Manager Wesley Littke. "What we've done is we've created an atmosphere where anyone would be comfortable having business meetings or a date or meeting people after work; a really great social environment."

Venues such as Pawn Shop, The Artery, and Edmonton Event Centre amongst others have been forced to shut their doors in recent years for a variety of reasons, the biggest being insufficient funds to keep business going. Fingers have been pointed at these music venues lack of emphasis



CHRISTINA VARVIS

on the hospitality of the spot leading to a shortcoming in revenue. What The Needle hopes to achieve is a perfect balance between hospitality and talent in which people are not only drawn to the venue for the music but also the great food and atmosphere.

Regardless, the impact of these closed venues is felt by owner, fans, and musicians alike. Front-woman of local band STRANGESOCIETY, Cassidy Margolis, believes closure of any well-known venue in Edmonton is a huge loss to the music

community.

"When it [Pawn Shop] closed everyone felt the impact ... it's where I've seen a lot of shows and that was the venue that we always had a goal of playing. So when it closed it was heartbreaking because it was

like 'there it goes, we can never play there'."

The grand opening of The Needle might just be the answer to many local artists prayers who are finding it difficult to compete for stage time since the closure of so many venues.

"There's so much talent in Edmonton" Margolis says. "I hope to see venues that provide local acts the opportunity to play as well as open for larger acts that come through, somewhere that gives local bands an opportunity get their name out there"

That is the exact concept Littke and his team are looking for at The Needle. "We want to have a gamut by which we play and your average happy hour music would be just something you would be cool to sit and listen to. Our ticket acts, we're going for the national and international" Littke says. "[But] we're happy to hear from local bands cause that's how we're going to build our brunch music and our happy hour music for the time being. And if they can draw a crowd, we're happy to put them on the main stage."

Anyone is welcome to get in touch with the venues booking agent online via their website if they are looking to play. The Needle's only commitment is that it's either live or it's on vinyl, so talent from all over the map be it bands, DJ's, or singer/songwriters are wanted. Want to stay in the loop? The Needle offers a free membership online with updates and rewards for it's members.

U of A prof brings experimental film festival to the Metro

FILM PREVIEW

The Festival of (In)appropriation

WHEN Thursday March 10, 2016
WHERE Metro Cinema (8712 109st)
CURATED BY Jaimie Baron, Lauren Berliner, and Greg Cohen
HOW MUCH \$9 with student ID

Kate McInnes

ARTS & CULTURE STAFF

Ever since *The Blair Witch Project* scared every teen into never going camping again, the term "found footage" draws to mind low-budget, shaky-handed, pseudo-

documentaries like *Cloverfield*, *Project X* and the *Paranormal Activity* series.

For the past seven years, however, the Festival of (In)appropriation has challenged audiences to rethink their definition of the term by presenting them with short, experimental films that rework older videos in ways not intended by their original creator. This year's programme — which debuted on Feb. 21 in Los Angeles — features 12 films that grapple with broad concepts like mental illness and nuclear apocalypse by extracting from sources like Britney Spears music videos and game footage from *Call of Duty: Black Ops*.

Jaimie Baron, the director of the *Festival of (In)appropriation* and an assistant professor in the University of Alberta's Department of

English and Film Studies, admits true found footage film "is not for everyone."

"If you open yourself up to it, you can have a truly transformative experience," she says. "I hope audiences will come ready for a different kind of experience from the ones we usually have at the movies."

Baron decided to found the festival in 2009 after she began to notice how few settings are devoted to showcasing recycled cinema. Since its inception, the Festival of (In)appropriation has screened diverse content within found footage cinematography, from a remix of Hitchcock's *Rear Window* to a film devoted entirely to images of the human clitoris taken from medical textbooks.

This year, audiences will be

guided through films that, among others, juxtapose Shakespeare's *Othello* and the O.J. Simpson murder trial and deconstruct our linear perspective of time by beginning with David Bowie and ending with Dr. Spock. Instead of creating new stories, these films dissect and explore ones we already know.

"For me, the festival is a way to keep apprised of what artists are doing with found materials and to get to know those artists," Baron says.

"I also hope to promote their work and get it shown as widely as possible."

Since the 1980s, the act of reusing old sound recordings in new songs has become common— 14 of the 18 tracks on Kanye West's new album, for example, are based on such samples. Though the similar practice

of reworking clips from old media into new videos has been happening since the 1936 film *Rose Hobart*, recycled film remains a distinct subgenre.

With the development of new technologies, this subgenre is growing. Still, the Festival of (In)appropriation, which will be made available on video for wide release later this year, remains one of the few venues in the world catered toward found footage cinema.

"Although there are some other festivals that showcase found footage, (they) mainly show kind of campy materials like funny old VHS tapes," Baron says.

"The Festival of (In)appropriation is focused not only on exhibiting interesting found materials but also on creative strategies for reframing and manipulating their meanings."

Essentials to have for your Oscar themed party

Meghan Rannells

ARTS & CULTURE WRITER

With the Academy Awards airing Sunday evening, it is time to start thinking about how you should watch them. If you have yet to be invited to an Oscar party, perhaps you should think about hosting your own. We've even made it easy with a list of everything needed to ensure a kick-ass celeb worthy event. So dust off your ballgown and send out the invitations, because the countdown to your Oscar party is on.

5. Accessories — Red Carpet

Dazzle your guests with a red carpet prepped for their arrival and snap some photos as they walk in. Sometimes these can be tough to find if hardware stores are in short supply, so a red blanket or red fabric are great alternatives. Try Fabricland or any home decor retailer to

find a red carpet fit for your event. Regardless of the material chosen, your red carpet will make guests feel famous even if they're not quite A-list celebrities.

4. Drink — Champagne

While your party may lack thousands of celebrities and paparazzi, there is an easy way to ensure your guests still feel like stars: champagne! Feel free to splurge on some Dom Perignon, or snatch up a few bottles of Fioretti Prosecco, a tasty alternative with the appealing price of \$18.99 at your nearest Liquor Depot. The bubbly beverage is certain to give your Oscar party the extra class it deserves. Have glasses set aside and ready for guests as they arrive for the added bonus of glamour. The best perk of drinking champagne? It gives you an excuse to say "We're poppin' bottles!"

3. Food — Bison Bites

The nominated movies should encourage you to be creative in your party planning, so if possible, plan appetizers around them. If you're a fan of anything Leonardo DiCaprio, make bison bites inspired by his latest flick *The Revenant*. Marinated and cooked however you choose, cut the bison into bite sized pieces and serve with a garlic aioli or chipotle mayo, with small skewers nearby so guests can easily help themselves.

2. Prizes — Movie Passes

Prizes are always fun, and they add some competition between guests as they play the Ballot Game (explained next). Based on the host's budget, different items per category may be desired (i.e. lipstick and mini hairspray for Makeup and Hairstyling), or a bulk selection of one prize may be purchased. A

great one-stop-shop prize are movie passes. What better way to celebrate great movies but to see more great movies? Especially with the rising theatre fare, guests are sure to appreciate the free admission.

1. Game — The Ballot Game

If there is one thing every Oscar party needs, it's the Ballot Game. Good news: it's easy! Create sheets listing all of the Oscar categories and their nominations with corresponding checkboxes per nominee. When guests arrive, each will fill out their own ballot before the Oscars begin. If a guest guesses the correct winner in a category, they win that round, with a grande prize for "most wins" at the end of the show. Guests will love the opportunity for prizes, and it is a great way to continue socializing once the show begins.



Sports

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VOLLEY-ROOS Chris Morrow (left) and Alex McMullin (right) both chose to play in Canada to further their volleyball careers.

MITCH SORENSEN

Morrow and McMullin bring Aussie flavour to Volley Bears

Mitch Sorensen

STAFF REPORTER • @MITCHDSORENSEN

Although the world seems to be built on a scale slightly too small for Chris Morrow and Alex McMullin, the University of Alberta Physical Education students are both in their element on the volleyball court.

Both listed at 6'7", Morrow is a third-year middle hitter, and McMullin a second-year outside hitter for the Golden Bears Volleyball team. Though the team is packed with home-grown Albertan and Canadian talent, both come from slightly further south.

Both born in Australia, McMullin is from Brisbane and Morrow from Sydney. Growing up in Australia doesn't offer many opportunities to play youth volleyball, so they both started in other sports. McMullin played soccer until he was "too tall to run anymore," and Morrow played Aussie Rules football until he realized a "6'5", 150lb 15-year-old probably wouldn't have much success in contact sports."

After leaving other sports behind, both McMullin and Morrow recalled their high school coaches getting them involved with volleyball in their Grade 11 years. Both soon joined the Australian Junior National Team Program and were given the opportunity to train full-time.

Despite the fact that their hometowns are nearly 1000 kilometres apart, McMullin and Morrow ended up rooming together at the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS) in Canberra, the nation's capital.

Though McMullin was brought in only as a volleyball player, Morrow had to make the decision of whether to pursue volleyball or high jump when he arrived at the AIS. Having cleared over two metres in competition, he had potential to succeed at a high level in both sports. However, volleyball was an easy choice for him.

"It was my opportunity to do (volleyball) then and only then," Morrow said. "I went through the system, and decided to give volleyball a go."

That decision paid dividends for both men, as Morrow and McMullin gained a large amount of skill and game experience in a short time with daily training and extensive gameplay at the AIS and with national teams.

"I was an Australian, sitting in an English pub, having an American beer, in Canada."

CHRIS MORROW
BEARS VOLLEYBALL PLAYER

Both soon reached the "glass ceiling" of domestic Australian volleyball, and needed to make a life-changing decision on furthering their careers.

In Canada, school and club volleyball scenes feed directly into Canadian Interuniversity Sport (CIS) and schools like the University of Alberta and the University of Calgary, as well as the Canadian Collegiate Athletic Association (CCAA), and teams like NAIT and Concordia. From there, many university and college graduates go on to play professionally overseas.

Australia, according to McMullin, "has no 'club' as such." There's a pro league, but McMullin called it "nothing really important or significant." That, coupled with the lack of varsity programs at universities, means players have to look outside Australia to further their careers.

"Once (a player) reaches the national team, they usually go overseas," Morrow said. "Some will look to play university ball, and others will go to Europe and Asia to seek pro contracts."

Many of those seeking university scholarships end up in the CIS and CCAA, as almost every

high-level team features a player or two from Australia or New Zealand. Looking internationally allows teams to fill roster spots with limited local recruiting classes, as well as bring more talent to the Canadian game.

For Golden Bears Head Coach Terry Danyluk, recruiting from Australia was dictated by need.

"We were looking for a middle blocker to join our ranks, and there weren't many coming out of high school (locally)," Danyluk said. "I knew one of the coaches from the Australian national team, he gave me a list of names, one of them was Chris Morrow."

Morrow, at the time, was coming off of a tour in Russia with the national team. He said it took about five seconds after talking to Danyluk that he decided to come to Edmonton.

"I hadn't really thought about coming to Canada until I got that email (from Danyluk)," Morrow said. "But when I did, it all made sense."

A year later, Danyluk was looking at the Australian national team once again, when McMullin caught his eye. Initially, McMullin was more interested in staying at home, but a few months later, Danyluk got the email saying the big Aussie had chosen "the Canadian adventure."

Morrow recalled a conversation after his first year, when McMullin was still deciding where to go, and telling him that he should "definitely come over (to Alberta)." When McMullin made the choice to come to Edmonton, Morrow said it was an exciting time.

"It was a big deal for me to have him come to the team, and to have someone else that I can relate to at the cultural level," Morrow said.

After they committed to the U of A, both men scrambled to get everything together in the few weeks before Fall semester. McMullin was in Kazakhstan on tour with one of Australia's youth national

teams when he committed, and recalled many late-night email conversations across time zones with his parents in Australia and Danyluk in Edmonton trying to get visas and transcripts sorted out.

Despite all the red tape, both McMullin and Morrow managed to successfully arrive in Edmonton to begin their first-year studies. Though the transition to a new city and country can be difficult for many international students, the Aussies both said the change was fairly smooth, although Morrow had an interesting experience trying to find a place to eat in his first night in Edmonton.

"We try to ensure that new guys have a connection to other players as soon as possible."

TERRY DANYLUK
BEARS VOLLEYBALL HEAD COACH

Arriving in a house furnished only with a mattress, he decided to go out for dinner. Looking for a taste of home, he decided to search for the Walkabout Pub on Whyte Avenue, not knowing it had since been renamed and rebranded as the Buckingham. After walking for nearly 20 blocks and a lot of confusion, Morrow resigned himself to a pint.

"I was an Australian, sitting in an English pub, having an American beer, in Canada," Morrow said. "And I'd forgotten to pack a belt, so this whole time my jeans were falling down."

After his first-night debacle, Morrow lived in the then-furnished house with then fifth-year teammates Jarron Mueller and Tucker Leinweber in his first year, before eventually becoming roommates with McMullin when he arrived.

Danyluk said cultivating a culture of family in Bears Volleyball

is something that he and his staff focus on, both with international and domestic players.

"We try to ensure that new guys have a connection with other players as soon as possible," Danyluk said. "It would be the same for someone coming from (a small town) or different city that it is for someone international."

That team connection is evident for McMullin in even the subtlest of ways. The mittens he carried to his interview with The Gateway (vintage, with a Los Angeles Lakers crest), were a gift from Danyluk.

Though both players pointed to the upcoming Canada West and CIS playoffs as their main focus going forward, they also said that continuing to maintain a strong effort was a primary goal. As for what the team wants out of every season, the response was clear.

"We've won a couple rings and we want a couple more," Morrow said. "There's always the CIS championship in mind."

Getting to that trophy involves a very busy schedule, with daily practices, a variety of workout requirements, and maintaining a full-time academic schedule. It's a lot to ask of anyone, but Morrow said it's easy to focus on what matters.

"I do this so I can stay in Canada," Morrow said. "If it wasn't for volleyball, I wouldn't be here."

Beyond their bright futures as Golden Bears, both Morrow and McMullin have a desire to play professionally and for their country in years to come. Past that, McMullin said he enjoys coaching and hopes to give back to the sport by teaching it to others in future.

For now, the Aussie imports and the rest of their Golden Bears teammates will be focused on playoffs. The Canada West Final Four tournament takes place in two weeks, with the No. 1 ranked Bears holding home court advantage.

Canada West



Final Four

Puck Bears looking for three-peat

Zach Borutski
SPORTS EDITOR • @ZACHSPRETTYCOOL

Alberta Golden Bears: The two-time defending national champion Alberta Golden Bears didn't have an easy road to the Canada West final four, using a furious late season push to snatch second place in the conference, and a first-round bye. They enter the playoffs with momentum however, and also boast the best team numbers in Canada West, leading the conference in goals scored, while also giving up the fewest. They'll match up with the Mount Royal Cougars, in what should be an entertaining series featuring two teams that play very similar, fast-paced styles. Look for the Bears to rely on their balanced offensive attack and solid goaltending from Luke Siemens to give them an advantage in the series.

Saskatchewan Huskies: The top dogs in both Canada West and CIS this year, the Huskies had a dominating year to say the least. Boasting a 22-6 record during the regular season, and comfortably securing the first overall seed in the conference, the Huskies now match up against the underdog Calgary Dinos, who failed to finish

above .500 in the regular season. The Huskies are led by youth, as their top three scorers, Kohl Bauml, Levi Cable, and Andrew Johnson all competed in their first full CIS seasons this year, and finished first, second and third in the rookie scoring race respectively.

Mount Royal Cougars: The Cougars are appearing in their second straight Canada West final four, after a convincing quarterfinal victory against the UBC Thunderbirds, in which they won both of their games by a 7-3 score. They'll look to be more successful than last year when they lost out to their crosstown rivals the Calgary Dinos in a hard-fought three game series, but will be in tough against a Golden Bears team that is entering the playoffs with some serious confidence, having knocked the Cougars out of second place in the last weekend of the season. Don't count the Cougars out however, they have some serious scoring threats up front, and get solid goaltending night in and night out from Colin Cooper.

Calgary Dinos: After a 20-8 season and Canada West finals birth last year, the Dinos enter this year's final four as the clear

underdog, posting a modest 12-16 record in the regular season. Credit to the Dinos however, as they defeated a tough Manitoba Bisons squad in their quarterfinal to earn a spot in the final four. They'll have their hands full in their semifinal against the top-seeded Saskatchewan Huskies though, and if the regular season is any indication, it could be a quick exit for the Dinos. In four regular season games against the Huskies, the Dinos went 0-4, while giving up 19 goals in the process. They'll have to be better defensively if they're to have any chance of upsetting the nation's top team.

Prediction: On paper, there should be one closely contested series, and one blowout. On one side, the Bears and Cougars are two very evenly matched teams, but look for the Bears to win a close series on the strength of their balanced scoring attack and solid d-core. On the other side, the Dinos simply don't measure up to the Huskies, and it shouldn't take anything less than a miracle to see Saskatchewan advance easily. Look for the top two teams in Canada West to renew hostilities in the conference finals.



RANDY SAVOIE



JOSHUA STORIE

Ice Pandas face familiar foe in semifinals

Zach Borutski
SPORTS EDITOR • @ZACHSPRETTYCOOL

Alberta Pandas: After being locked in a three-way dogfight for top spot in Canada West with Regina and UBC, the Pandas were able to secure top spot and a first round bye in the last weekend of the season with a sweep of the lowly Mount Royal Cougars. The Pandas will now look ahead to their matchup with the Manitoba Bisons, a team they've had success against in the regular season, winning three of their four match ups while only conceding a single goal. Once again, the Pandas will rely on stingy goaltending in their quest to defend their CIS championship, as Lindsay Post had another excellent season, posting a 1.34 goals against average and eight shutouts in 23 games.

UBC Thunderbirds: After being knocked off in the semifinals last year by the Manitoba Bisons, the Thunderbirds return to the final four once again as a top two seed, hoping to not fall victim a lower seeded team for the second consecutive year. They face off against the much-improved Regina Cougars, and if their regular season match ups are any indicator, the series should be closely contested. The two teams split their four games

in conference play, with only one game being decided by three goals or more. The Thunderbirds will look to their two solid goaltending options for success, as Danielle Dube and Samantha Langford both posted goals against averages under two during the regular season, and combined for five shutouts.

Manitoba Bisons: The Bisons arrive in the final four after a hard-fought quarterfinal victory over the Saskatchewan Huskies, with the decisive game three taking five overtimes to decide. Thankfully, the Bisons will have a week to catch their breath and prepare for a Pandas squad that has had their number this year. The series could be decided by offence, or specifically, a lack of offence, as both teams only boast a single scorer in the top 20 regular season scoring list. Both teams were above average defensively, but the Pandas were on another level this year, surrendering an average of only 1.4 goals per game during the regular season. Couple that a Bisons offence that barely managed two goals a game in the regular season, and the Pandas look to be the favourites on paper going into the series.

Regina Cougars: The high-flying Regina Cougars are returning to the

final four after being ousted in last year's quarterfinals by the Manitoba Bisons. The key for the Cougars all year has been their offence, which led Canada West in goals this past season, and features the high-scoring trio of Kylie Gavlin and Jaycee Magwood up front, and also features the conference's leading goal scorer in defence in Alexis Larson. Workhorse goaltender Toni Ross will be called upon often in the series, as the Cougars gave up the second most shots in Canada West this past year, a fact that their opponents, the UBC Thunderbirds, will be looking to exploit.

Prediction: Based on regular season match ups and championship pedigree, the Pandas should hold the edge over the Bisons. The Pandas' stingy defence should have no trouble stifling an anemic Bisons offence, and the green and gold should be the favourites to advance. UBC and Regina present fans with a very compelling matchup, with the two best offences in Canada West facing off. Ultimately, UBC's slightly better defence and goaltending should give them the edge moving forward, but don't count out the Cougars by any means. Look for a Pandas-Thunderbirds matchup in the Canada West final.



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THE QUEST FOR A THREE-PEAT Bears hockey is looking for their third straight CIS championship.

RUILIN FU

Puck Bears and Pandas start playoff push

Zach Borutski
SPORTS EDITOR • @ZACHSPRETTYCOOL

The road to the CIS national championships starts this weekend at Clare Drake arena, as the University of Alberta Golden Bears and Pandas hockey teams open their playoffs with semifinal match ups against the Mount Royal Cougars and Manitoba Bisons respectively.

The Bears solidified a second place finish in Canada West with four straight wins to end the season, including sweeps over both the Cougars and first-place Saskatchewan Huskies. In the final weekend of the season, the Bears took down their provincial rivals on back-to-back nights, ensuring them a first-round bye in the playoffs.

Even though the two final wins against Mount Royal were important for earning that coveted first-round bye, head coach Serge Lajoie said they were able significant in terms of the play he saw out of his team during the final stretch run.

“I think what was more important was making sure that every guy, to a man, was playing the game the right way,” he said. “There was a playoff type intensity both games, and I liked how our guys responded, and was happy with the result.”

Overall, the Bears won the season series against the Cougars 3-1, but Mount Royal will present a tough opponent for the green and gold. The Cougars boast a solid offensive attack, led by forwards Tyler Fiddler and Malclise, who finished second and ninth in Canada West scoring respectively, and both produced at over a point-per-game this year.

Lajoie emphasized the need to stay structured against a good transition team like Mount Royal. He said when the Bears lost that structure is when they struggled against the Cougars during the regular season.

“When we got ourselves into trouble is when we didn’t place enough importance on our structure, and we didn’t have good awareness in certain areas,” he said. “They’re a dynamic team, they move pucks toward our net very quickly, so we need to have numbers in the neutral zone to limit their speed.”

“There was a playoff type intensity both games, and I liked how our guys responded, and was happy with the result.”

SERGE LAJOIE
BEARS HOCKEY HEAD COACH

In terms of the team’s practice habits and preparation leading up to their semifinal, Lajoie said it was mostly about keeping the attitude loose at this point of the season.

“There’s not much coaching that goes on anymore,” he said. “As coaches, we sit back, we make adjustments, and we let the boys play. We just need to make sure the guys know the exact game plan, and it’s just about fine tuning, getting the guys in good spirits, and getting them ready to go.”

On the women’s side, the Pandas finished first in Canada West, and therefore also had the virtue of a quarterfinal bye this past week, and

now look forward to their semifinal series against the fifth-ranked Manitoba Bisons. The Bisons are fresh off a thrilling series victory over the fourth-ranked Saskatchewan Huskies, winning the last two games of the series after losing the first. The deciding third game was an absolute thriller, with the Bisons eventually winning in the fifth overtime period, advancing to the semis after the longest game in CIS history.

The Pandas will be looking for second straight Canada West title, and face a familiar foe in the Bisons, as the two squads faced off in last year’s Canada West finals, with the green and gold coming out on top in a series sweep.

“It’s going to be a tough battle,” Pandas head coach Howie Draper said. “Any game against any opponent can go two completely different ways.”

According to Draper, the key to a series victory for the Pandas is keeping the Bisons away from the front of the net, where they like score the majority of their goals.

“Manitoba’s the type of team that lives and dies at net front,” he said. “They’ll do anything they can to create chaos, so we’ve got to be strong, box them out, and make sure we’re doing good things with the puck when it’s loose.”

Both teams will host their respective semifinals at Clare Drake Arena this upcoming weekend, with Pandas games starting at 2 P.M. on Friday, and 1 P.M. on Saturday and Sunday if necessary. The Bears get the prime time slot, with their games starting at 6 P.M. on Friday, and 7 P.M. Saturday and Sunday if necessary.



FAMILIAR FOE The Pandas and Bisons faced off in last year’s Canada West final, which the Pandas won.

JOSHUA STORIE

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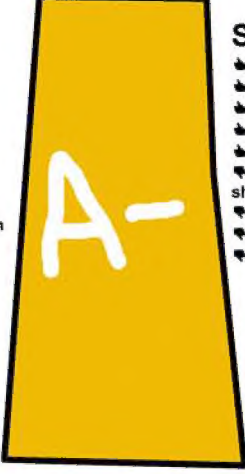
STRAIGHT OUTTA STRATH-CO by Alex McPhee

A Gateway Exclusive Listicle: 2016's Western Provinces Report Card!



ALBERTA

- Despite a rough year, still the best province
- Most diverse ecosystem in North America
- Most UNESCO World Heritage Sites in North America
- Still probably the richest province
- Still no PST
- Only province to have "special areas"
- Last Best West



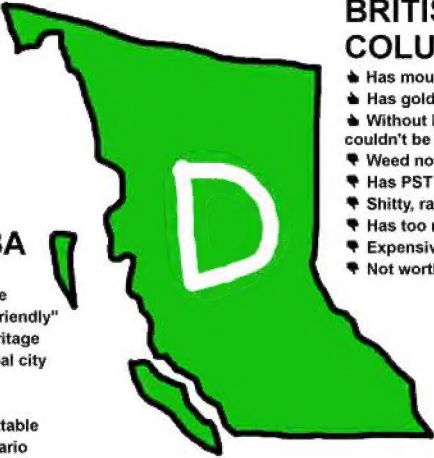
SASKATCHEWAN

- Mathematically perfect shape
- Beautiful prairie landscape
- Land of Living Skies
- Good economic performance
- Birthplace of free healthcare
- Premier keeps trying to start shit, what's his beef huh
- Has PST
- Not actually perfect rectangle
- Birthplace of Canadian KKK



MANITOBA

- Is OK, I guess
- Has some prairie
- Is apparently "Friendly"
- Multicultural heritage
- Winnipeg is a real city
- Too many lakes
- Has PST
- Generally forgettable
- Attached to Ontario



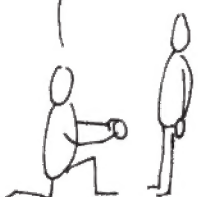
BRITISH COLUMBIA

- Has mountains
- Has gold, probably
- Without BC, our motto couldn't be "From Sea to Sea"
- Weed not even legal
- Has PST
- Shitty, rainy weather
- Has too many mountains
- Expensive
- Not worth it

DESKTOP INK: Two Weeks Late by Derek Shultz

VALENTINE'S DAY IS NAMED AFTER CHRISTIAN MARTYRS...

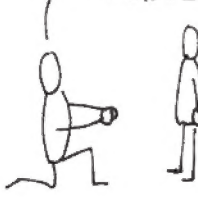
WILL YOU BE MY VALENTINE?



INTERPRETATION 1: THEY WANT TO KILL YOU FOR YOUR FAITH

IT LINES UP WITH AN ANCIENT ROMAN SACRIFICIAL FESTIVAL...


WILL YOU BE MY VALENTINE?



INTERPRETATION 2: THEY WANT TO KILL YOU FOR THEIR FAITH

CHAUER MADE THE FIRST LINK BETWEEN THE DAY AND ROMANTIC LOVE IN THE 14TH CENTURY WITH A POEM ABOUT BIRDS MATING...

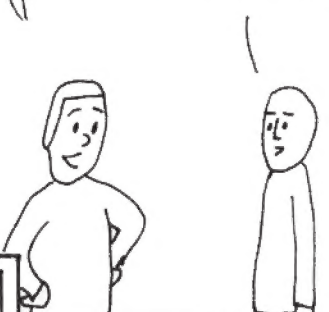
WILL YOU BE MY VALENTINE?



INTERPRETATION 3: THEY WANT TO ACT OUT THEIR BIRD FETISH WITH YOU

AND THAT'S WHY I DON'T GO ON DATES ON VALENTINE'S DAY!

NO IT'S NOT...



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